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THE TIMES

No. 64,539 WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13 1993 45p

Major to block plans for tough press laws

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

TOUGH new laws to curb the freedom of the press appeared last night to be doomed after the disclosure that the Princess of Wales used national newspapers to put forward her side of her troubled marriage.

John Major, who almost certainly knew of the princess's role in the press coverage, let it be known that he was against setting up a statutory press complaints tribunal headed by a judge and empowered to impose heavy fines.

Such a tribunal is the central recommendation of Sir David Calcutt's enquiry into newspaper conduct, but last night the idea appeared to have been rejected even before his report had been published and the cabinet had had a chance to discuss it. With clear signs that a large majority of senior cabinet ministers share the prime minister's view, it seemed likely that the government's reaction to the report would be confined to legislation banning bugging devices and restricting the use of telephoto lenses.

Mr Major refused, however, to be drawn in the Commons yesterday on the government's likely response, which is almost certain to wait until after the Commons national heritage committee has published its report on press intrusion. Nevertheless, the campaign by some MPs for statutory curbs suffered what is likely to be a fatal blow when a letter from Lord McGregor of Durris, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, to Sir David was leaked to *The Guardian*. In it, Lord McGregor said that he had been told that both the prince and princess had recruited rival newspapers to put their versions of their marital differences.

Yesterday, Lord McGregor confirmed that he had been given ample evidence that the princess had used newspapers to publish details of her marriage, saying: "What pulled the rug from under the commission while it was attempting to protect the princess was the discovery that she herself, through her friends, was busily engaged in providing her own publicity to selected tabloids." He added, however, that he had no evidence to support claims that the prince was also leaking information.

His remarks intensified the already strong doubts among MPs and ministers over whether the princess could ever be crowned Queen, as Mr Major insisted was a possibility when he announced the royal separation last month. Lord McGregor's further charge that he had told senior ministers about the princess's manipulation of the press added to a day of embarrassment for the government.

Ministers have cited alleged intrusive coverage of the royal family as one of the main justifications for curbs on the press. But yesterday Downing Street described the claims about the princess as a side issue and said that the main motivation in setting up the Calcutt review had been to improve protection from privacy intrusions for all people.

In his letter to Sir David, Lord McGregor detailed how his commission was misled by Buckingham Palace when it denied that the princess and her friends were leaking information to the press. After Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, had told him that such suggestions were baseless, Lord McGregor issued a statement accusing the newspapers of "dabbling their fingers in the stuff of other people's souls".

Almost immediately, however, he learnt that the princess was helping to provide newspapers with information and was making herself available for photographs. He told Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Wakeham, the Lords leader, who later spoke to Sir Robert. That conversation, which was reported to the prime minister, led to Sir Robert apologising to Lord McGregor.

The Press Complaints Commission chairman said yesterday that he believed Sir Robert and Charles Anson, the princess's press secretary, to be wholly honourable, but he felt "used" by the princess. In his letter to Sir David, he had written: "The actions of the Princess of Wales in this situation seriously embarrassed the commission and undermined the purpose of this carefully timed and emotively phrased statement of their attitude towards the reporting of the state of the marriage."

Lord McGregor's letter also said that he had told Kenneth Baker, then home secretary, of his anxieties and had also mentioned the position to Gus O'Donnell, Mr Major's press secretary. But both Mr Baker

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SIMON WALKER



Lord McGregor yesterday: his remarks strengthen doubts among ministers and MPs that the princess will ever be crowned Queen



America set to strike after Iraq readies missiles in the north

From Jamie Dettmer in Washington, Christopher Walker in Cairo and James Bone in New York

THE United States last night appeared poised for punitive action against Iraq if Baghdad failed to remove anti-aircraft missiles from northern Iraq.

Scorning United Nations condemnation and ignoring strong hints from Washington of military action, Iraq for the third consecutive day sent workmen into Kuwait to retrieve equipment from a naval base it no longer controls. The Bush administration said it viewed continued Gulf war ceasefire violations by Baghdad as a "matter of extreme concern" and that no further warnings would be given before it acted to stop President Saddam Hussein's flagrant disregard for UN resolutions.

Washington's anxiety increased when Pentagon officials revealed last night that Iraqi surface-to-air missiles in northern Iraq had been put on "operational status". A US general said Iraq was pushing the West to the brink of military action by having moved Sam2 and Sam3 missiles near to the Saddam hydroelectric dam, about 25 miles north of Mosul, and within the air exclusion zone imposed by the allies on northern Iraq to protect Kurdish rebels from Iraqi air attacks. General John Shalikashvili, the supreme allied commander of Nato forces in Europe, gave a warning that the missile deployment could be dangerously provocative.

Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press spokesman, said: "There is a clear pattern of violation, whether it's missiles, or these raids into warehouses, or other actions they've taken." Moscow also yesterday condemned the latest Iraqi incursion into Kuwait.

According to a spokesman for the UN observation force on the Iraq-Kuwait border, about 150 unarmed Iraqis in civilian clothes yesterday again entered buildings in the Kuwaiti part of the former Iraqi naval port of Umm Qasr, 50 miles north of Kuwait City. Abdellatif Kabboj said the incursion was on a smaller scale than the Sunday and Monday raids which provoked the UN security council to condemn Iraq. "They are demolishing buildings and taking whatever they can — windows, cables, everything," he said.

The three days of Iraqi salvage operations at Umm Qasr are seen in Washington and at the United Nations as an expression of Iraqi contempt for the border, which was redrawn by the UN after the Gulf war. The Iraqis first crossed the border on January 2 in an unsuccessful attempt to retrieve equipment.

Cat and mouse game page 11
Clinton struggle ..... page 11

The recent daily raids began on Sunday, a mere 24 hours after Baghdad had apparently capitulated to a demand by America and its allies to remove surface-to-air missiles from the southern Iraq no-fly zone. On Monday, the UN security council condemned the incursions and demanded that President Saddam return four anti-ship Silkworm missiles seized from the port.

It appeared at the weekend that Iraq had defused the crisis over deployment of anti-aircraft missiles in southern Iraq by removing them. But Pentagon officials now say that Baghdad is constantly moving them within the prohibited area. The sudden introduction of surface-to-air missiles north of the 36th parallel could be the final straw.

Bosnian Serbs agree to UN peace plan

By Roger Boyes
East Europe Correspondent

BOSNIAN Serbs, the main stumbling block to a negotiated agreement on the future of Bosnia, yesterday bowed to international pressure in Geneva and agreed to accept a United Nations peace treaty. The breakthrough came after a day of diplomatic manoeuvring at talks chaired by Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen.

In a tough speech earlier, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, insisted on Bosnian Serbs having the right to set up their own legally separate region within Bosnia. Since this again questioned the UN's central principle, that Bosnian sovereignty be restored, it seemed the Geneva peace process had finally collapsed, bringing Western military intervention closer. Lord Owen, indeed, spoke of a "breakdown".

Within hours, however, Dr Karadzic was back at the negotiating table, declaring a new readiness to compromise. He accepted the plan subject to approval by the Bosnian Serb parliament within the next seven days.

The pivotal role in Dr Karadzic's about-face was apparently played by Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president. In late-night talks on Monday he warned the Bosnian Serb leader that he was risking war with the West and that Belgrade would not back him if that happened.

Denmark, current holder of the European Community presidency, has called a special meeting of EC foreign ministers in Paris late tonight to discuss the war in Bosnia.

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On This Day, page 19

BA passengers switch to Virgin

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

A SHATTERED and demoralised British Airways management yesterday began an internal enquiry aimed at weeding out those considered responsible for the airline's most damaging and costly public relations disaster. The backlash started, with many full-fare paying passengers switching their tickets from BA to Virgin flights.

The public relations staff — including the public affairs director, David Burnside — are not regarded as among those most culpable and will retain their jobs at least until the planned retirement of Lord King of Wartnaby as chairman in July. Instead the main target in the search for blame is the huge sales and marketing department headed by Jim Callery, 58, an American.

Sir Colin Marshall, BA chief executive, has told staff none will be disciplined, but several people are expected to move to less sensitive posts or to take early retirement.

Richard Branson said last night that he was looking forward to "two weeks without lawyers" before deciding whether to take matters further. He is considering action in America or in the European court to gain compensation for the damage caused to his airline by the "dirty tricks" used by BA.

"We have had no communication of any sort from either Lord King of Sir Colin Marshall" he said. "Our attitude to taking further legal action might have been different if we had, and if they proved that they were making a genuine public apology. The court action yesterday was purely over libel and did nothing to redress the losses we suffered as a result of information being taken from our computers."

Some of that loss was, however, recovered yesterday when at least ten full-fare paying "upper class" passengers and "dozens" of economy class passengers switched tickets from BA to Virgin flights. Mr Branson said: "To give BA their due, they endorsed them over to Virgin immediately without any hesitation."

Snow traps 2,000 drivers in Scotland

By Ian Murray

MARINE commandos on skis, helicopters, the RAF mountain rescue team and dozens of police were called out yesterday to rescue over 2,000 drivers trapped in their vehicles by wind and driving snow which brought chaos to eastern Scotland. Much of the area was cut off by the worst storms for 20 years, with rail services from the Highlands at a standstill and main roads linking Inverness to the south blocked by 6ft drifts.

Freak storms and icy weather over much of Britain caused hundreds of accidents. A woman died in a five-car pileup near Swindon, and Berkshire emergency services ran out of ambulances.

The worst blizzards hit eastern Scotland, where drifts built rapidly as winds brought icy weather from the North Sea. Helicopters from RAF Leuchars and Lossiemouth were both kept busy. 45 Royal Marine Commando went out on skis to rescue stranded drivers near Forfar, and the Royal Navy sent a helicopter to the Isle of Barra for a man suffering severe abdominal pains.

The RAF mountain rescue team from Leuchars checked stranded cars and [illegible] 50 students from St [illegible] and 20 motorists.

Off the Shetlands, the oil tanker *Braer* finally broke into pieces. During the night the last of the 84,500-tonne cargo was forced out of her tanks as she snapped in at least three places.

On the roads, the A9 between Glasgow and Perth was clogged with miles of stranded vehicles and the AA estimated that over 2,000 cars and lorries were trapped. The M90 between Edinburgh and Perth was blocked by snow, and lorries jackniffed south of Perth made the road almost impassable.

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Revelations about how the Prince and Princess of Wales manipulated

Camp followers became media messengers to fuel battle royal in the press

BY ALAN HAMILTON, TONY DAWE AND BRIAN MACARTHUR

■ Far from being an intrusion of privacy it turns out that many of the newspaper stories about the destruction of the fairytale royal romance were planted, with scant regard for the consequences

THE front page of the *Daily Mail* on July 2, 1991, could hardly have looked more ponderously solemn had it been announcing a royal death. In a way, it was doing just that, giving seemingly authoritative credence to the months of speculation that the Prince and Princess of Wales's marriage, forged in the fires of fairytale romance, had decayed to a smouldering ember.

Under the cautious headline "Charles and Diana: cause for concern", the paper reported that friends of the prince were furious at reports that he had refused to leave Highgrove, his country home, to attend his wife's 30th birthday party in London.

The story by Nigel Dempster, the *Mail's* celebrity gossip columnist, added that the prince had even offered her a party at a location of her choosing, but she had declined all offers.

To the casual reader, it might have appeared yet another royal row story. It was, in fact, the start of a campaign to manipulate the media by rival camps supporting the Prince and Princess of Wales, a campaign which inadvertently led to the biggest threat to the freedom of the Press in Britain for decades.

For the story had been fed to the *Mail* by the very friends to which it referred. They had been incensed at a report in the same newspaper the previous Friday that painted the prince as a villain because, for the first time since his wedding, he would be away from the princess on her birthday.

The following day, the princess's camp inspired a riposte in *The Sun*, written by Andrew Morton, which quoted Diana as saying she could not stand a grand ball with her husband's "stuffy friends", and that it was inappropriate to spend thousands of pounds on a birthday thrash in a period of recession.

"I had hoped my husband knew me well enough to understand I don't like that sort of thing," the princess was supposed to have said.

While the battle royal raged, its implications were discussed by two peers in the unlikely setting of Luxembourg. Lord Rothermere, patrician publisher of the *Daily Mail*, was attending a meeting of senior European newspaper folk to discuss the threat of pan-European press legislation. Over a private dinner, he met Lord McGregor, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, and advised him that the royal couple had each recruited newspapers to carry their own accounts of the marital rift.

Lord McGregor was sufficiently concerned to share his information with a few senior colleagues. He had already lunched several times with Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, and Charles Anson, her press secretary, and was aware of their concern at press treatment of the royal family's private lives and of their relative impotence to contain it when their principals went over the heads of the official palace machine. The PCC chairman was later persuaded, however, to dismiss the advice and join last summer's attack on the press which aggravated anger at the tabloids and probably did most to inspire Sir David Calcutt, QC, to recommend the tougher controls on newspapers in his report to the government that was comprehensively leaked last weekend.

> "The princess "felt like she had been physically slapped in the face" when she read the "cause for concern" story. Realising this, Morton broke off a holiday in America and returned to start work on the book that would make his fortune"

Lord McGregor was probably influenced by the way Lord Rothermere had overstated the case. For the press baron's remarks suggested more cleverness and public relations professionalism than either royal camp possessed.

Neither the prince nor the princess had forged any formal links with newspapers. The prince would have regarded it as beneath him to indulge in such sordid activity and is frequently annoyed with close friends who attempt to tell his side of the story. Nor has the princess ever telephoned newspapers herself. Even her close friends seldom do so, but there is a well-oiled system of winks being tipped to trusted messengers. Unlike the prince, however, the princess is more than happy for her side of events to be given maximum exposure.

Chief among those messengers is Andrew Morton, a tabloid reporter with good contacts in the Diana camp. Both he and the princess insist they have never met — not entirely true, as they have made passing acquaintance on foreign tours — but it is unnecessary for Mr Morton to interview Diana every time she wishes a story planted. Her friends will do it for her.

A week after the birthday fracas, Morton wrote a substantial piece for *The Sunday Times* suggesting that there had been a "truce" between the couple. Writing of a truce is an excellent way of admitting there is a war without actually having to say so.

According to one of Morton's "confidantes", the princess "felt like she had been physically slapped in the face" when she read the *Mail's* "cause for concern" story.

Diana's close circle, including her former flatmate Carolyn Bartholomew and her brother Earl Spencer, had homed in on Andrew Morton as a reliable conduit; realising this, Morton broke off a holiday in America and returned to start work on the book that would shortly make his fortune.

The manipulation continued during the summer of 1991 as several newspapers carried reports of the royal couple's planned holiday together aboard a yacht in the Mediterranean. Journalists were told by Buckingham Palace it was a voyage of reconciliation, but the trip was treated with some scepticism.

Manipulation of newspapers by tip-off died away for some months, but the princess maintained a full-scale assault in person. At the end of a visit to Canada in October 1991, she scored a notable coup by being photographed greeting her two sons on the deck of *Britannia* while the hapless Charles lingered out of shot talking to naval officers.

In February 1992, she cleverly engineered the photograph of herself alone in front of the Taj Mahal, on the very bench where her future husband had sat many years before promising he would one day bring his bride to this monument to marital love. Her husband was busy lecturing businessmen in Delhi. In May last year, visiting Egypt alone, she made sure she was photographed in solitary pose before the pyramids.

Press manipulation began again in earnest last June, with the serialisation in *The Sunday Times* of Andrew Morton's book *Diana: Her True Story*. The rights had originally been offered to the *Daily Mail*, but they had turned it down, and it went instantly out of the clutches of Lord Rothermere and into the hands of News Group, whose chairman is Rupert Murdoch.

A few days after publication, most national newspapers received a call from a plummy-voiced but anonymous woman suggesting they send a photographer to a certain address at a specified time. The papers were rewarded with a shot of the princess visiting her Carolyn Bartholomew and, close to tears, a perfectly blatant attempt to win the sympathy vote. News editors are still uncertain whether the caller was Mrs Bartholomew or Mrs Andrew Morton.

At this stage, Lord McGregor, believing assurances from the palace that the princess had not co-operated with the book, condemned journalists for "dabbling in the stuff of other people's souls".

Andrew Knight, chief executive of News International, wrote to him questioning the statement's content and subsequently told him of the considerable lengths to which *The Sunday Times* had gone to verify Morton's sources. *The Sunday Times* had concluded that the sources direcly reflected the princess's views and her apparent wish to see the book serialised in the paper.

A statement from News International yesterday said: "Lord McGregor expressed his surprise. Mr Knight then told him that he had heard that a visit by the Princess of Wales to one of the prime sources (Carolyn Bartholomew) was likely to take place that afternoon and that a number of newspapers seemed to be being made aware of it with the knowledge of those involved. Lord McGregor expressed his shock and concern."

Such was the impact of Morton's book that Charles's friends, and the palace machine, were close to despair. The prince again expressed his avowed wish not to descend into the bear pit, but his loyal staff were determined to take counter-measures.

The Sun discloses today that at one stage it was asked to fax a copy of the story planned for publication to Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace so he could check its accuracy. It was faxed to a friend and in turn faxed to the palace. "According to the intermediary", *The Sun* says, "the prince did not think the story would help his cause at that stage" and he asked *The Sun* not to publish. The Sun complied.

Penny Junor, who had written a biography of Charles in 1987, was encouraged to write a substantial and supportive piece on him, highlighting his qualities of rectitude and devotion to duty, and to offer it for publication in *The Times*. It was declined, largely on the grounds of being too partisan, and subsequently appeared in *Today*.

In early September, photographers covering the prince and princess returning their sons to boarding school at Wokingham reported that the princess made every effort, by her positioning and body movements, to keep the prince out of the picture. She succeeded.

Among royal advisers the impression had begun to form that *The Sun* and *The Sunday Times*, both owned by Rupert Murdoch, a man with no association with the British establishment, had been largely lost to the princess's camp. Commander Richard Aylard, the prince's private secretary, and colleagues who remained loyal to the prince turned to the establishment *Daily Express*, edited by Sir Nicholas Lloyd.

The *Express* obligingly carried a substantial feature in early November, as a prelude to the Wales's forthcoming tour of Korea and trumpeting the trip as a perfect chance to heal the marriage rift.

The *Express* stance lasted precisely 24 hours. The very next day the *Express* led with a story from its own royal correspondent, Ashley Walton, exposing the tour for the sham that it subsequently proved to be. On the same day *The Sun*, with information supplied by the Diana camp, reported that the princess had been ordered to go to Korea against her will. Another strong bid for the sympathy vote.

But the final and biggest bombshell was given to the *Daily Mirror* to explode on the breakfast tables of the nation. Again tipped off by the princess's friends, the *Mirror* disclosed the so-called "Camillagate" tapes, alleged to be of an intimate telephone conversation between the Princess of Wales and Camilla Parker-Bowles. It was awesome revenge for the "Squidgygate" tapes of earlier in the summer, which had sat in *The Sun's* safe for two years until the time was judged correct to release them.

> Among royal advisers the impression had begun to form that *The Sun* and *The Sunday Times*, both owned by Rupert Murdoch, a man with no association with the British establishment, had been largely lost to the princess's camp

Yesterday the Camillagate tape was published in full in an Australian magazine and it will now certainly leak into British papers. Some say it could be a damning indictment of the Prince of Wales.

Curiously, when the separation of the prince and princess was finally announced in December, there were no leaks in advance. For once the couple appeared to have made a pact and the official statement was more than enough to sate the voracious appetite of Fleet Street.

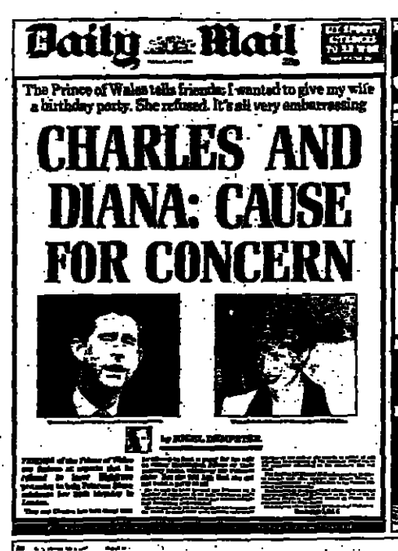
The principal casualty seems to have been the Buckingham Palace press office, which has been largely powerless in the face of a battle being fought far above their heads.

When Sir Robert Fellowes gave an assurance to Lord McGregor that the princess and her friends were not co-operating with Morton to produce his book, he was probably acting in good faith, having asked the princess point-blank and presumably having received a blanket denial.

Yesterday's leak of the letter from Lord McGregor to Sir David Calcutt, which disclosed his view that the princess had manipulated the press, has effectively killed the prospect of statutory control of the press, a fear that has haunted him throughout his chairmanship of the PCC which has coincided with reporting of the royal rift.

In the battle between the prince and princess to use the press for their own ends, the princess at this stage appears to be the winner on points.

Yet both parties have displayed a naivety in assuming that newspaper speculation can really have much influence compared with hard facts, such as the announcement of the separation, or that newspapers are ultimately interested in anything other than a good story, from whichever camp it comes.


Daily Mail

The Prince of Wales tells friends: I wanted to give my wife a birthday party. She refused. It's all very embarrassing

CHARLES AND DIANA: CAUSE FOR CONCERN


The Sun

LABOUR NHS MOLE AXED

FROM KISS TO THIS!

Cut short a honeymoon Charles

Di snub for Prince after Taj let-down


CHARLES & HIS TRUE STORY

Charles has lived for 11 years with two faces of Diana – in public the perfect princess, in private very different

IN PUBLIC

IN PRIVATE

CHARLES IS A DOTING FATHER BUT SHE THWARTS EVERY MOVE – Page 23

McGregor saddened by royal 'mockery'

BY BILL FROST

LORD McGregor of Durris, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission (PCC), yesterday admitted that the Princess of Wales had made a mockery of his attempts to protect her against the worst excesses of the tabloid press.

Lord McGregor expressed quiet satisfaction over the damaging impact the leaking of his letter to Sir David Calcutt QC had had on the campaign to muzzle the press, but said he had been "saddened, surprised and depressed" over the affair. He told *The Times*: "What pulled the rug from under the commission while it was attempting to protect the Princess was the discovery that she herself, through her friends, was busily engaged in providing her own publicity to selected tabloids."

Lord McGregor added: "What this episode demonstrates clearly is that any proposed statutory body would be no more effective in its work than the present self-regulating system."

Sir David, author of the report on press self-regulation, which is with the cabinet, had made plain he did not regard the commission's work with any enthusiasm, said Lord McGregor. "However, we submitted a considerable body of evidence which broadly satisfied us that Fleet Street editors had established a firm basis of self-regulation which was being widely upheld," he added.

David Chipp, a member of the commission with long experience of Fleet Street custom and practice, yesterday rejoiced over the leaked letter, claiming a victory for those lined up against further curbs on the press. "It will make one or two of these hypocrites think again," he said.

Patsy Chapman, editor of the *News of the World* and a member of the PCC, said: "I am sure the public will have the intelligence to see the irony in this affair and realise that we must fight against any attempt to impose a 'hush-up'," she said.

Other editors yesterday seized on the leaked letter as vindication of their coverage of the breakdown in the marriage of the prince and princess last summer.

Andrew Neil, editor of *The Sunday Times*, said the papers had been doing their job and "getting it right". News International, which also publishes *The Times*, said that *The Sunday Times* believed it was the "apparent wish" of the Princess of Wales that Andrew Morton's biography of her should be serialised.

Andreas Whittam Smith, editor of *The Independent*, said yesterday that the moral authority of the government to introduce further curbs on the press was growing "weaker by the hour".

Peter Preston, editor of *The Guardian* and a member of the PCC, said the leaked letter would fundamentally alter many people's views on the manner of reporting. "It makes criticism of the PCC for failing to stop the coverage a lot more understandable."

'Princess embarrassed the commission'

THIS is the text of the letter from Lord McGregor of Durris to Sir David Calcutt QC, sent on December 11, 1992, as published in yesterday's *Guardian*:

"Here is the note that I promised as a summary of my oral evidence about what passed between Charles Anson [the Queen's press secretary], Sir Robert Fellowes [the Queen's private secretary] and myself in respect of press reporting on the state of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. I shall not publish this note but I leave to you to publish it or quote from it as you wish. However, I shall be grateful if you will not use paragraph two with its reference to Lord Rothermere.

1. When the [Press Complaints] Commission began work, I expected that reporting of the royal family would become an anxiety. Early in 1991, David Chipp, a commissioner, arranged a lunch with Charles Anson and Sir Robert Fellowes. This was followed by a lunch at the palace attended by several palace officials and by the director of the commission, accompanied by Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, David Chipp, Sir Edward Pickering and me.

Conversation centred on the problems faced in common by the palace and the commission and the possibilities of mutual assistance. The commission arranged a further lunch at which palace officials met all the ombudsmen appointed by the national newspapers. Since then, Charles Anson, Sir Robert Fellowes, the director and I have exchanged views from time to time.

2. In May 1991, Lord Rothermere told me at a private dinner in Luxembourg that the Prince and Princess of Wales had each recruited national newspapers to carry their own accounts of their marital rifts. Lord Rothermere warned me of the difficulties that this would create for the PCC.

3. I told the then home secretary, Kenneth Baker, of my anxieties in December 1991, and suggested that he might wish to consider how the palace press office could act to limit the damage. Later I also mentioned [redacted] the situation to Mr [Gus] O'Donnell, the prime minister's press secretary.

4. It was announced that Andrew Morton's book, *Diana — Her True Story*, would be published in June 1992, preceded by extracts in *The Sunday Times*. A frenzy of reporting by most sections of the media followed and details of the split between the prince and princess were publicised widely for the first time. The impression that the princess and her friends had co-operated in the writing of this book was denied by Charles Anson and Sir Robert Fellowes.

I arranged a meeting with Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, Sir Edward Pickering and David Chipp at which we drafted the attached statement criticising severely press reporting of the state of the marriage. Before it was issued to the Press Association, I read it over the telephone to Sir Robert Fellowes, in the presence of my colleagues, and asked him for an assurance that the rumours linking the princess and her friends with involvement in leaking information to the press were baseless. Sir Robert gave that assurance, and the statement was issued on behalf of the commission after I had read it over the telephone to as many commissioners as could be reached. An absolute majority of all commissioners agreed.

5. The following morning I was told by Andrew Knight, executive chairman of News International, that the princess was participating in the provision of information for tabloid editors about the state of her marriage and was going to make herself available to be photographed with a friend who was known as one of Andrew Morton's sources. I took further soundings and was satisfied that what Mr Knight had told me was true.

6. At the first opportunity, I spoke to the Lord Chancellor and to Lord Wakeham [leader of the House of Lords]. Lord Wakeham invited me to repeat what I had told him to one of the prime minister's private secretaries, and subsequently spoke to Sir Robert Fellowes, who was then in Paris with the Queen. Sir Robert later spoke to me in order to apologise for what had happened and to say that his assurance had been given in good faith.

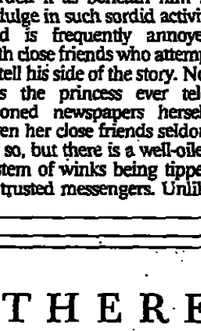
7. I told ministers that, if the commission were criticised for a failure to deal effectively with the reporting by the press of the publication of Mr Morton's book and related matters affecting the royal family, I should be prepared to issue a public statement containing a narrative of events.

8. The actions of the Princess of Wales in this situation seriously embarrassed the commission and undermined the purpose of this carefully timed and emotively phrased statement of their attitude towards the reporting of the state of this marriage.

9. Against this background and the likelihood that information would continue to be leaked to the press about the personal relations of the spouses by their partisans, I concluded that the commission had no alternative but to hold their hand for the time being.

I therefore urged upon Mr Anson and Sir Robert Fellowes the desirability of their sending as formal complaints to the commission a selection of the large number of alleged factual inaccuracies about the royal family, taken from the press, which they had sent to me. If the commission upheld a number of such complaints, it would be in accordance with their established policy to give guidance to editors in the form of an editorial in one of the monthly reports. This would enable the commission to tackle [redacted] the problems arising from this [redacted] reporting."

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Answers on page 36

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the media have rebounded on plans to curb the freedom of the press



Principal players: the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, Sir David Calcutt, author of the report to the government on press conduct, and Charles Anson, the Queen's press secretary

Controls by the state would be 'wrong and very dangerous'

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR judges and other leading figures of the legal establishment yesterday condemned proposals for statutory press controls as wholly wrong and dangerous.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, former Lord Chancellor, Lord Scarman, the retired law lord, and Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, all strongly opposed statutory control via a tribunal headed by a judge, as reportedly recommended by Sir David Calcutt. But there was support for tightening the laws of trespass to stop snooping and bugging, as well as for a possible new civil law of privacy if one could be clearly defined.

Lord Scarman said that a statutory tribunal presided over by a judge would be wholly wrong. That had been his view for a long time and did not derive from the present furore over the royal family. "The freedom of the press is desperately important."

Where state power should be exercised, it should be directed towards "strengthening the protection of the privacy of the ordinary citizen", he said. If that could be done through tightening the law of trespass to stop bugging or snooping he was "in favour" although it would need careful consideration.

"But as far as a statutory tribunal is concerned, even under the auspices of a High Court judge, that is no way foward at all."

Lord Hailsham said: "I do not myself favour quangos headed by judges which are not part of the ordinary court system and act in effect as the fifth wheel to a coach. By definition, quangos are not accountable to anyone."

"That is not the line of country I would have pursued at all," he added. "I think that everybody has a right to privacy and that is guaranteed by the European Convention and by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

But he agreed it was worth considering whether there should be a new tort of privacy and to "let everybody have the right to sue".

Lord Denning expressed a similar view. "I am against statutory control of the press and I always have been. My fundamental belief is the independence of the press and the freedom of the press.

"When I considered this in the Profumo inquiry, where there were rumours and scandals about everybody from the highest to the lowest in the land, my view was that the right way was self-regulation. Statutory control would be self-defeating."

Lord Williams of Mostyn, QC, last year's Bar chairman, said the Calcutt proposals as reported were very dangerous. "I simply don't think it is government business to set up a statutory tribunal to interfere with the freedom of the press. Much better to have a tort of privacy which individuals can enforce if they want to. But I am dead against the criminal law being involved." He said the recent revelations that the Prince and Princess of Wales had recruited the press to publicise their own versions of their marital difficulties had further weakened what was anyway a "deeply flawed" case. The way to tackle the problem was to extend the law of confidentiality into a new civil law of privacy and leave it up to individuals to take action, Lord Williams said.

Sir Frederick Lawton, former Court of Appeal judge and for 26 years a member of the criminal law revision committee, said he was against any law that would not be clear. With any penal statute, anyone should be able to look up in a library what the offence was, he said.

"You can't do that with privacy. Whether a particular act is an invasion depends entirely on the circumstances. An editor or reporter is going to say, can I do this under the law, or can't I? It would be a vague grey area."

The only area of disagreement among the legal "elder statesmen" was on the relevance of the latest disclosures that the Prince and Princess of Wales had used the press to publicise their own versions of their marital difficulties, with some seeing the latest disclosures as having little relevance.

"I don't think it has any relevance at all," Lord Hailsham said, adding: "The revelations exactly compounded the deductions I had already made from the publicised material." The Calcutt proposals would have to be consided on their own merits when published.

Aides have key role in presenting monarchy

SIR Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary, who allegedly had to apologise for mistakenly telling the Press Complaints Commission that the Princess of Wales was not authorising press briefings, is one of the most powerful figures behind the scenes at Buckingham Palace.

He plays a key role in presenting the public face of the monarchy, acting as link-man between the Queen and the Government and wielding considerable influence in the royal household.

Sir Robert is reported to have said that he acted in good faith in giving his assurances to the PCC.

He is married to the princess's elder sister Lady Jane. The son of the Queen's former land agent at Sandringham, Sir Robert went from Eton to the Scots Guards, before 14 years in the City working for the discount banker Allen Harvey and Ross.

Sir Robert and his two deputies liaise closely with the Queen's press secretary, Charles Anson, and private secretaries to other royal households.

Charles Anson has held one of the most prestigious yet unenviable posts in public relations since 1990. Educated at Lancing and Jesus College, Cambridge, where he read history, he joined the diplomatic service, and, while in Washington, came to the attention of the Queen for helping to organise press facilities for her visit to President Reagan's ranch. He has served in the Downing Street press office, and as head of public affairs at bankers Kleinwort Benson.

The nine-strong press office is part of the private secretary's office. Since their separation, the Prince and Princess of Wales have been allocated their own press spokesmen.

Sir David Calcutt QC, who reported on press conduct, was educated at Cranleigh School, Surrey, and King's College, Cambridge, and was called to the bar in 1955. He was a recorder and is master of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Trade flourishes in electronic ears

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

AS THE government considers recommendations by Sir David Calcutt QC to outlaw bugging devices, one of the country's leading suppliers reported yesterday that sales were booming for equipment which is becoming increasingly sophisticated. A tape recorder no bigger than a credit card will set the buyer back £600, a transmitter hidden in a working pen costs £650 and receivers cost from £370 to £3,000.

Lorraine Electronics, based in north London, says it sells equipment to companies, businessmen and journalists. Firms like Lorraine, smaller businesses and also freelance

[redacted]

electronic engineers who make up special orders probably supply a total of at least 25,000 bugs each year, one expert said yesterday.

Lorraine offers a range of equipment which allows offices or homes to be bugged with equipment concealed in calculators, electric plugs and telephone plugs. For £3,500 the eavesdroper can sit on the other side of the world and listen undetected to conversations in a room in London. A simple transmitter which could easily bug a telephone by breaching exterior wires costs £440.

Yesterday David Benn, Lorraine's managing director, said that up to to 95 per cent of sales were to businessmen, a quarter of them from large corporations including many high street names. Equipment was bought because of fears of industrial and commercial espionage and worries that rival companies might introduce or recruit moles among their staff.

Lorraine's brochure warns customers that use of the equipment could breach the Wireless Telegraphy Act if a transmitter were used without a licence and that tapping telephones would be an offence under telecommunications acts.

Selling the equipment is not illegal and Mr Benn said that in many instances using the equipment might not be viewed seriously by courts. Laws controlling transmitters were intended to stop radio interference but modern equipment did not cause interference.

" If you use high quality equipment you are not going to be caught," he said. " It is like going down a motorway at 195 mph in an invisible car. You can't be seen and you can't be caught."

Mr Benn said he was a great believer in privacy. Journalists who bought equipment were often investigative reporters and their work in uncovering criminals was defensible. He believed the equipment was used very rarely to pry into private lives.

Hugo Cornwall, the author of a recent study on industrial espionage, said laws already existed on the use of the equipment but the issue raised by the Calcutt report would be how to enforce them. One possibility would be to prosecute anyone who made use of information obtained by bugging.

Major to block press laws

Continued from page 1

and Mr O'Donnell denied yesterday that the royal family or the Palace had been mentioned at meetings with the press complaints chief.

Although the press continued to face criticism for hounding the couple, ministers and courtiers who knew of the princess's involvement remained silent. Asked yesterday why he had not apologised to the papers when it became clear that they had accurately reported the breakdown of the royal marriage, Lord McGregor said yesterday: "I found myself in an impossible position. I was in the position of being damned if I did and damned if I didn't." He said he still viewed the reports as "in some respects lamentable", adding that in tone and repetitiveness, they left a great deal to be desired.

The disclosures meanwhile raised new concerns among MPs about the future role of the princess. Dame Jill Knight, a vice-chairman of the 1922 committee of Conservative backbenchers who has cast doubt on the prospect of the princess ever becoming Queen, said she was in even more danger of losing public support.

She said: "It seems to me in trying to assess the feelings of my colleagues and my constituents too, that whereas when all this began there was a great deal of sympathy for the princess, that I think has ebbed away to a great degree, and possibly it's true now that there is more sympathy for the prince."



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Soho bomb trial told of Gibraltar link

Assassin's rifle 'was in IRA arms cache'

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN ASSAULT rifle used in the attempted assassination of the former governor of Gibraltar, Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Terry, was found in an arms cache belonging to the alleged IRA bomber James Canning, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

The allegation was made during the trial on explosives charges of Mr Canning, 37, and Ethel Lamb, the 60-year-old woman he lived with in a bungalow in Northolt, west London. John Bevan, for the prosecution, said that 15 shots from the Romanian-made Kalashnikov hit Sir Peter at his home in Milford, Staffordshire, in September 1990, nearly killing him. His wife was also injured. The attack followed the shooting of three terrorists in Gibraltar in 1989.

The loaded weapon was recovered last April in a lock-up garage rented by Mr Canning in Uxbridge, a ten-minute drive from Northolt. Mr Bevan said: "The relevance of all that is to show that Canning's link is with the IRA rather than some other group of terrorists. There is no evidence and no suggestion that Canning was one of the men who tried to kill Sir Peter."

It was one of six Kalashnikovs allegedly stored by the defendant in a cache which also included 651 rounds of ammunition, 40 kilos of Semtex explosive, detonators, tilt switches, booby-trap car bombs and incendiary devices.

The court was told that the items were found by police on April 13, a week after a bombing in Soho, after a lengthy surveillance had been mounted on the bungalow Mr Canning shared with Mrs Lamb, a retired fruit trader.

Mr Canning is accused of causing an explosion on April 6 in Bridle Lane, Soho, and carrying a loaded Smith and Wesson revolver. He and Mrs Lamb are jointly charged with conspiring to cause explosions likely to endanger life and possessing Semtex explosive and six AKM-47 assault rifles. Mrs Lamb is also accused of making money and property available to Mr Canning knowing it could be used for acts of terrorism. Both defendants deny all the charges.

After interviewing Mrs Lamb, police uncovered a second lock-up garage rented by Mr Canning in Southall, west London, on April 16. There, officers found a bomb, more incendiary devices, 2½ kilos of Semtex, a detonator, other bomb-making equipment and a Honda motorcycle with false number plates, Mr Bevan alleged.

In addition, at both garages police found a total of three wooden pegs, used in the final safety mechanism of a primed bomb, which must be removed by hand before it is planted. Mr Bevan said the dowels could only have been left over from bombs which had been successfully detonated and there remained the implication that they had been used in previous missions. When he was arrested on June 13 Mr Canning had enough Semtex for nine more incendiary devices and ten more bombs. In a vase in the living room of the bungalow officers also discovered a note which read like a shopping list of explosives and timing devices, and which may have been a "supplementary order" to build up depleted stocks, said Mr Bevan.

Earlier a video recording of Mr Canning leaving home with a briefcase, allegedly containing the bomb which he planted in Soho on April 6, was shown to the jury.

Taken by police from a house opposite the bungalow during a long surveillance called Operation Catnip, it showed Mrs Lamb standing in the driveway in her dressing gown blowing kisses to Mr Canning, who waved back as he set off, allegedly on his mission to Soho to explode the bomb in Bridle Lane. Another video allegedly showed him loading bomb-making equipment into his car.

The trial continues today.

COLIN LANE



Accused: Derek Hatton, facing charges over land deals, arriving at court with his wife, Shirley, yesterday

Hatton denies fraud

BY RONALD FAUX

DEREK Hatton, former deputy leader of Liverpool City Council, pleaded not guilty to three charges of fraud yesterday at Mold Crown Court, Clwyd. Mr Hatton, 44, of Childwall, Liverpool, and four other defendants pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiring to defraud Liverpool City Council over land deals.

Evidence will begin on Monday after lawyers have completed four days of legal argument and the hearing is expected to last up to six months. Accused with Mr Hatton are John Nelson, 49, Hannah Folan, 47, Roy Stewart, 54, and John Monk, 45, all of Liverpool.

The judge, Mr Justice Waterhouse, told the group of 62 potential jurers gathered in the courtroom: "I know many people commute from North Wales to Liverpool daily and are involved in the affairs of Liverpool. If any of you have been involved in the affairs of the city council or concerned with the business of Liverpool City Council it is obviously undesirable that you serve."

A jury of five men and seven women was then sworn in.

'Bad actor' denies gem fraud

BY A STAFF REPORTER

DARIUS Guppy, the gem merchant accused of being involved in a £1.8 million insurance fraud, told a court yesterday that he could not have lied about being robbed at gunpoint in New York because he was a "lousy actor".

The prosecution has alleged that Mr Guppy, 28, who was best man at the wedding of Earl Spencer, the Princess of Wales's brother, and Benedict Marsh, his business associate, paid an accomplice £10,000 to help to stage the robbery and then fooled New York police as part of a £1.8 million insurance swindle.

James Curtis, for the prosecution, said: "It was very carefully planned — they gave a brilliant performance." Mr Guppy, described by American police as shaking and sweating after the hold-up, told Snaresbrook Crown Court, east London, that he had not made it all up. It was genuine, he said.

Mr Guppy, of Ladbroke Grove, west London, and Mr Marsh, 28, of Southwark, southeast London, have denied one charge of conspiracy to defraud, one of conspiracy to steal and two of conspiracy to commit false accounting. They say they were forced to hand over the keys to their hotel room safe by two gunmen.

The trial was adjourned until today.

Suspected burglar 'ran over victim'

A WOMAN was killed and her teenage son injured when a man they suspected of burgling their house deliberately drove his car at them as they tried to stop him, Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

Michael Hubbard, for the prosecution, said that Darren Blagrove, 22, turned his vehicle into a "weapon" and drove straight into June Parkes, 51, of Frenchay, Bristol, and her son Steven, 19, on February 4 last year.

Mrs Parkes, who died almost instantly in the incident, had a notebook and pencil in her hand as she stood in the roadway. "The one thing in his mind, on any burglar's mind, was to make good his escape," said Mr Hubbard.

Mr Blagrove, of Eastville, Bristol, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of murdering Mrs Parkes. He also denies a charge of causing Steven Parkes grievous bodily harm with intent.

Mr Hubbard told the court that a neighbour telephoned Mrs Parkes's husband, Roy, saying she had seen two men breaking into their home. Mr Parkes confronted Mr Blagrove, who, with his colleague, jumped into a Ford Granada and drove off.

"He could have taken a variety of avoiding actions. But he drove on the wrong side of the road as fast as the car would permit," Mr Hubbard said.

Wife buried strangled husband under patio

BY PETER VICTOR

A WOMAN who killed her violent husband and buried his body under the patio of their semi-detached house continued living there for three years with her new husband before confessing.

Jill Stubbs, 32, a mother of three, was jailed for 30 months yesterday after admitting that she strangled her former husband with a clothes line. Stafford Crown Court heard that Mrs Stubbs, who is expecting another child next month, suffered physical, verbal and sexual abuse until she snapped.

She denied the murder of Michael Devaughn, 40, her former husband, but admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. Douglas Draycott QC, for the prosecution, told the hearing: "There is no doubt that she had married a sadistic man who submitted her to verbal, physical and sexual abuse. Due to the violence ... she undoubtedly had an appalling life."

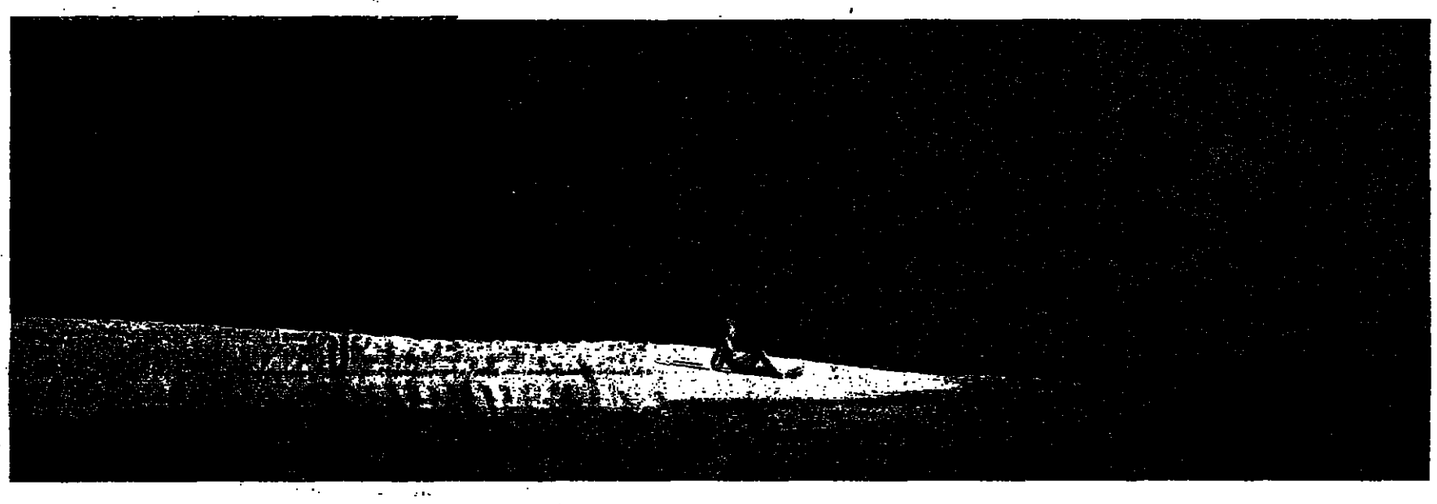
The prosecution claimed she beat her husband unconcious with a cast-iron sancepan, tried to shoot the former marine with a replica gun and finally strangled him with the washing line, using the handle of a hammer to tighten the noose.

She buried him in a shallow grave beneath the paving stones at their home in Bentley, Walsall, West Midlands and told friends that her husband had left her, the court was told. She got a divorce after forging his signature and married Peter Stubbs, her present husband, Mr Draycott said.

Within a few months of their wedding she confessed the secret to her husband, who last June went to the police and tried to shoulder the blame himself.

William Andreae-Jones QC, for the defence, said Mrs Stubbs had put up with violence and abuse for ten years: "Before their marriage, her husband had been convicted of a serious assault on her and they even had a fight on their wedding day. Matters continued in that vein."

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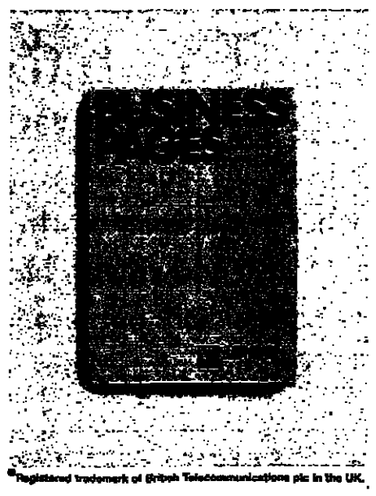
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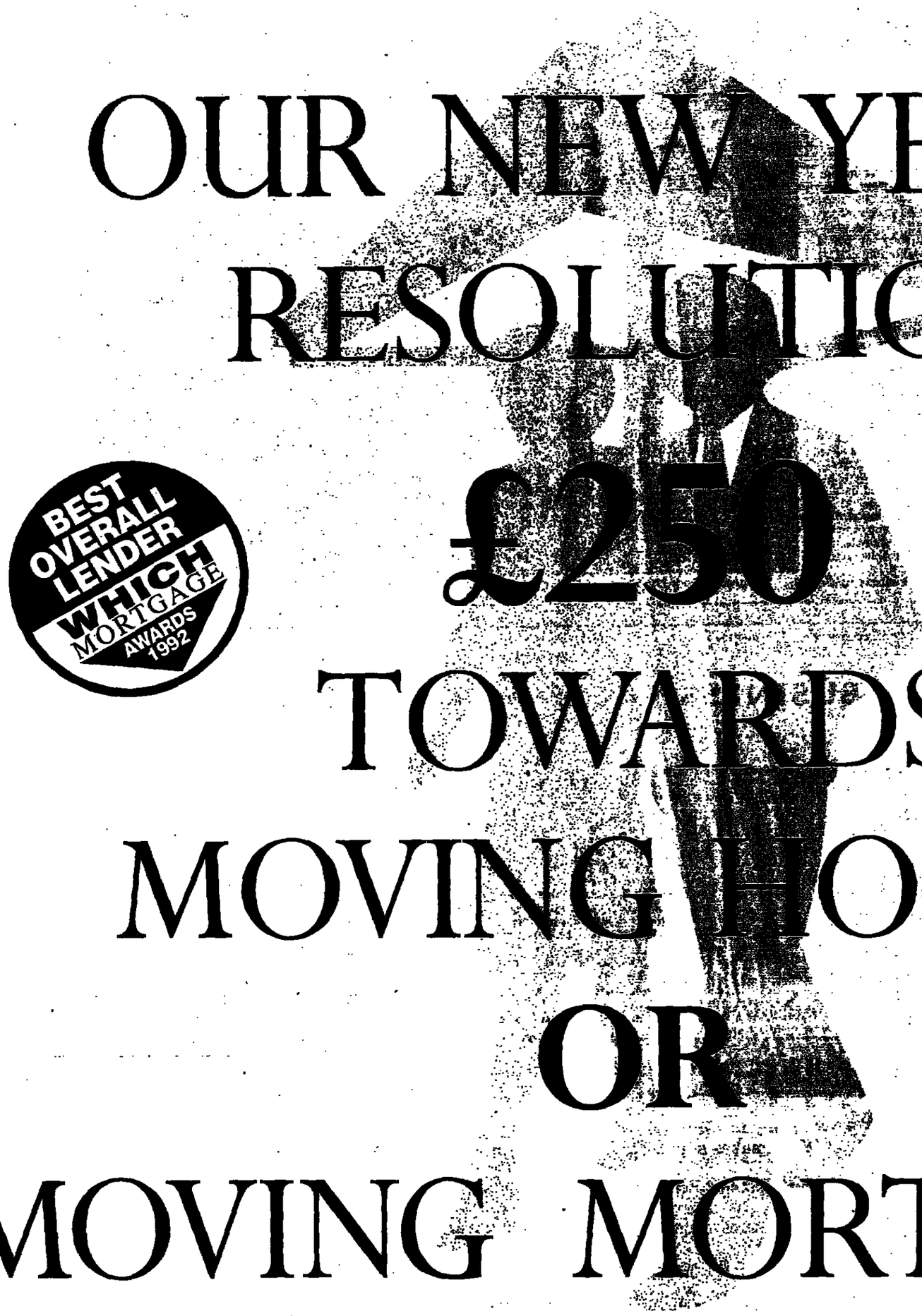
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The fight is on to help Shetlanders pick up the pieces after pollution catastrophe

A hardy race aims to salvage its livelihood from dark waters

FROM WALTER ELLIS IN LERWICK, SHETLAND

SHETLANDERS are a hardy and stubborn race. Much of their independent character stems from the fact that, quite literally, they have been given greater latitude than the rest of us. They live their lives on the margins. Held fast in the teeth of the gale, their cluster of islands has a remoteness unequalled in Britain, and equalled in few other parts of Europe.

Today, a week after the wreck of the tanker *Braer*, with oil still oozing into the sea and spraying poisonously onto the barren pasture, islanders seem already to have recovered much of their composure. Salmon farmers and trawler men, in particular, have accepted the exclusion zone thrown around their shores by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and have staked their reputation on no tainted stock reaching the market while the zone applies.

Fish caught just outside the limit will, however, continue to be brought ashore, and journalists were invited to examine catches yesterday morning on Lerwick Quay and to check with independent analysts on the unsullied nature of the flesh. The consensus is that too much is at risk to attempt any passing off of polluted stock, and trawlermen have given firm assurances that no nets will be cast into waters affected by the spill.

In-shore fishermen, ironically, are not immediately affected. Because of EC quotas limiting the volume of fish they may land in a given period, in-shore men have been unable to take their boats out since mid-December and are living off savings. Their quarry — mostly whiting at this time of year — is safe beneath the waves. The fish live far below the deadly surface sheen, and so long as they are not netted and drawn through the oil, they should thrive in the months ahead.

Salmon farmers have the greatest long-term concerns. Running an average sized farm costs as much as £500,000 a year, and if investors fear that they may be throwing money into a polluted sea, livelihoods could be harmed for seasons to come.

Yet, observing the daily rigours of these men's lives, it is hard to avoid concluding that they must eventually recover. Shetland fishermen work for up to five months of the year in weather that would send most southerners scurrying for cover. So long, they say, as they are properly compensated, on the basis, presumably, of the polluter pays, they are confident of rebuilding their £80 million-a-year industry and of confirming the prosperity of recent years.

Crofters are left to wonder about the condition of their land. Their fears have tended to get lost amid the anxiety over fishing, but testing of sheep will continue for at least six months, and the hope against hope is that no lasting contamination will result from the vicious spray whipped up by bitter winds.

Each day sees the issuing of a new map detailing the insidious spread of the *Braer's* oil, and it would be easy for those affected to despair. So far, they have not done so. The resilience and realism that they have demonstrated in the face of disaster is evidence of an island inheritance. It is also proof that wealth, especially when hard won, is not easily relinquished.


TIM BISHOP

Quality control: part of the catch at Lerwick market which was cleared by inspectors yesterday before fetching higher than usual prices

EC pledges £800,000 in emergency aid

BY TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission is to give more than £800,000 in emergency aid to the Shetland Isles. A spokesman for Jacques Delors, the commission's president, said yesterday that most of the money would be used to help sheep and salmon farmers to rebuild their businesses.

Aid worth £24,000 will be spent to counter damage to the marine environment and £240,000 to monitor the effects of the disaster.

The commission reiterated its commitment to tightening maritime safety rules, although this appears to be a hollow promise. At a meeting in Brussels in December, EC transport ministers agreed that ships carrying hazardous goods, including oil, must provide precise information about their cargoes to the EC ports where they intended to dock. But the new rules would not have affected the *Braer* as the origin and destination of its cargo were outside the EC. The commission wants the new laws revised so that vessels have to notify authorities in EC waters.

Germany and Denmark blocked an earlier EC proposal that would have given maritime authorities the right to board ships suspected of carrying dangerous goods, claiming this would infringe the freedom of movement at sea.

Fishermen land first catch since disaster

BY RAY CLANCY

THE first fish to be landed in Shetland since the tanker *Braer* went aground spilling thousands of tons of crude oil into the sea yesterday fetched higher than normal prices.

The cod, whiting, haddock and monkfish were all netted outside the exclusion zone that was set up last week by the government.

Samples of all the fish were taken by a scientific officer from the Scottish Office and sent to a marine laboratory in Aberdeen for tests. David McKay said the fish would be examined for traces of hydrocarbon. Similar tests are expected on shellfish this week. At Lerwick fish market, skipper Brian Morrison, whose trawler *Endeavour* spent all weekend at sea, said: "We are just getting on with our job."

Arthur Nicolson, of Shetland Seafood Quality Control, said British food companies had decided to stop buying fish from Shetland. "The fish landed here today is destined for the Continent, the United States and Australia."

The fishermen are concerned about their future. Marine biologists say that when the residues from the oil work through the water the food chain could be contaminated for five years. "These hydrocarbons also affect the reproduction system of shellfish," said Willem Ment den Heijea, of Greenpeace.

Last of tanker's oil leaks out

BY RAY CLANCY, ROBERT MORGAN AND JONATHAN PRYNN

THE tanker *Braer* finally surrendered to the elements yesterday, breaking into pieces after a week of heavy seas and high winds off the Shetland islands. During the night the last of the 84,500-tonne cargo of oil was forced out of her tanks as she snapped in at least three places.

The *Braer* succumbed to the elements as the prime minister was pressed in the Commons to take a lead role in protecting Britain's coastline from a similar disaster before the outcome of the two enquiries into the disaster. The EC also announced £800,000 in emergency aid to the islands.

John Major said he would pass on to John MacGregor, the transport secretary, suggestions from John Smith, the opposition leader, for a promise from oil companies to use only the safest routes and for the use of radar to monitor traffic in sensitive areas.

No new slick formed along the coast as the Liberian-registered tanker broke up. The clean-up team, which includes hundreds of local volunteers, must wait for a break in the stormy weather. The salvage team again failed to board the vessel.

Environmentalists said the impact of the pollution could continue for ten years as toxic compounds from the oil worked through the food chain.

Derek Cox, director of public health for Shetland, said that the disaster had "not caused a major public health hazard" but the council's monitoring team had found traces of hydrocarbons in the atmosphere.

As darkness fell most of the *Braer* had disappeared under the sea. Geert Koffeman, managing director of Smit Tak, the Dutch salvage company, said that the salvage operation would continue. The tanker could be left where she lies, towed out to sea or broken up. Last night its American owners offered to pay for the wildlife rescue programme on the island and promised that the investigation into what happened would be made public.

☐ A powerful computer model that may help to predict, in unprecedented detail, the movement of the oil spilling from the tanker *Braer* is to be tested by government wildlife scientists.

Knife case consultant returns

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A CONSULTANT psychiatrist, whose recommendation freed a convicted knife attacker who later fatally stabbed an 11-year-old girl, has been allowed to return to work in the town where the incident happened.

The decision to allow Dr Neil Silvester to resume his duties was attacked by the dead girl's parents as "unbelievable and insensitive".

Dr Silvester, 47, was found guilty of a "serious error of professional judgment" by an investigation into the incident in April 1991. His patient, Carol Barratt, stabbed the schoolgirl, Emma Brodie, for no apparent reason in a shopping arcade in Doncaster, South Yorkshire. Two days before, Dr Silvester, who held a £40,000 consultancy at Doncaster Royal Infirmary, had authorised Barratt's release halfway through a detention order imposed for a similar attack.

Barratt, 25, is serving a life sentence at Rampton special hospital after admitting Emma's manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility. Yesterday, Doncaster Health Care Trust said the psychiatrist would resume his duties "within the next few days", but declined to say when or where.

Rob Brodie, Emma's father said: "We are stunned, we just cannot accept it."

Sharks foil Atlantic canoe attempt

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND PAUL WILKINSON

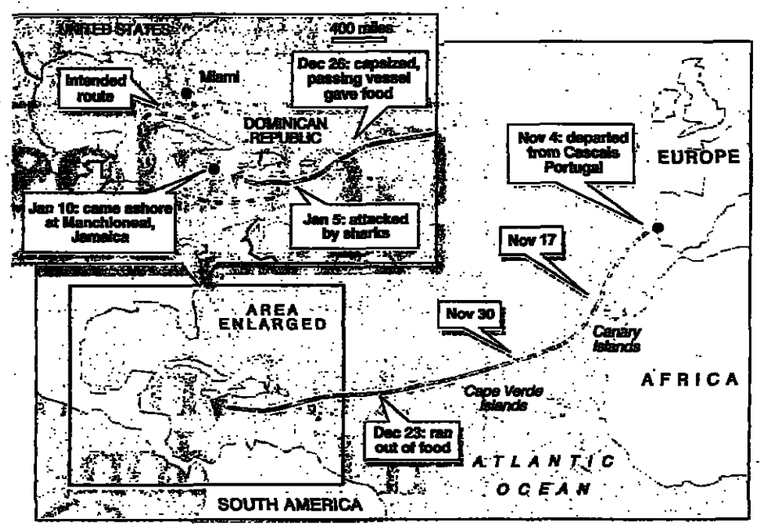
TWO British brothers have arrived in Jamaica exhausted and starving after sharks attacked and damaged their canoe in the Caribbean, forcing them to abandon an attempt to become the first to paddle from Europe to mainland America.

Chris and Stuart Newman, from Middlesbrough, Cleveland, said yesterday that they clung to their capsized canoe for four hours in the middle of the night as the sharks spun it round. By daylight the sharks had disappeared but it was another five days before they came ashore on the 68th day of their attempt to cross from Portugal to Florida.

The brothers are now recovering in hospital in Port Antonio where they are being treated for malnutrition and salt-water boils. Chris Newman, 32, told *The Times* yesterday that the sharks were attracted by oil and blood seeping into the sea from a dolphin they caught south of the Dominican Republic on January 4.

"We ran out of food on December 23 and the dolphin was to have been an excellent source of food. We butchered it and attached it to the canoe but it attracted two white-tipped sharks," he said.

As one of the 10ft sharks rubbed against the canoe the brothers tried to scare it off by spearing it with a harpoon. But it dropped behind the canoe and was joined by another shark. They tore into the dolphin and damaged the canoe as they spun it round. Stuart Newman, 30, said: "We hung on for dear life. We could not right the canoe because that would have meant falling into the water again. So we waited about four hours for daylight and by then the sharks were nowhere to be seen."



With no food and their navigation equipment destroyed the brothers realised their record attempt was over. On Saturday they sighted Jamaica and early the next day they came ashore at Manchioneal.

But their ordeal did not end there. Chris Newman said: "Starving and barely able to stand up we found some coconuts to eat. When daylight came a fisherman gave us some of his catch, but others tried to steal our equipment. But since then we have been well looked after in the hospital."

The Newmans' canoe was so small, measuring 19ft by 33 inches, that they could not take enough food for the crossing and had planned to rely on fish. But fishing was so bad that after their food ran out on December 23 they radioed a passing vessel for supplies.

The brothers, who are both former oil-riggers, will still go into the record books for travelling the furthest distance across the sea in the smallest boat. But Chris Newman said he was disappointed not to have made the crossing: "We will try again. We know we can cope physically in the ocean but we need bigger sponsors."

Members of the brothers' family were less happy to hear they were contemplating another attempt after the failure of their third transatlantic crossing. Amanda, Stuart Newman's wife, said: "I cannot order him to stop, but I will urge him to change tack. He has given me such a fright, but thank God he is alive."

Their mother, Ada, said yesterday she was thankful that her sons were still alive. "They have always been an adventurous pair and I just hope this will calm them down," she said.

Bishops debate women priests

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 100 bishops met behind closed doors in Manchester last night to discuss a solution to the issue of women priests. Dr John Habgood, the liberal catholic Archbishop of York, who supports women priests, has emerged as the leading mediator during the debate. Traditionalists believe his diplomatic skills could help to avoid a split in the Church of England.

Anglo-catholics are calling for an "assured succession of bishops who do not ordain women to the priesthood or recognise them as priests".

One source said: "Dr Habgood has shone throughout the meeting so far." Dr Eric Kemp, the Bishop of Chichester, a leading traditionalist, contributed to the debate, chaired by Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The source said: "The bishops went over all the options. Apart from a few contributions from extremists who believe everyone ought to accept women priests and have done with it, most people said something ought to be done to keep the church together."

The bishops might endorse an "assured succession" of bishops who do not ordain women priests or allow them to operate in their dioceses. This would mean going further than envisaged when the general synod voted to ordain women priests in November. It would almost certainly lead to an informal "church within a church", but this is a price many are prepared to pay to retain the anglo-catholics and traditionalist evangelicals within the overall structure of the Church of England.

Such a scheme could evolve as a development of the "alternative episcopal oversight", a solution which has been proposed by opposition groups such as Cost of Conscience and Forward in Faith.

It would mean a wider diversity of practice was held within the Church of England, always a broad church, than ever before. This would reflect what has already happened in the worldwide Anglican Communion, where some provinces ordain women

IN BRIEF

Rail service 'will get worse next year'

Commuters face a year of deteriorating services as the gap between the funding British Rail needs and what it gets threatens to become unbridgeable, the rail-users watchdog has said. The central transport consultative committee forecasts that a reduction in the number of peak-hour passengers on Network SouthEast will lead to fewer rush-hour trains from May.

Older trains will be scrapped to reduce maintenance costs and some services will be run with fewer coaches, leading to overcrowding. Although some safety work will go ahead, more speed restrictions will be imposed where work cannot take place because of lack of funds. The committee says it is "deeply concerned" at the prospect of fewer station staff.

Jacuzzi court martial

Two Royal Navy PT instructors shared a Jacuzzi with two trainee Wrens before having sex at their training base, a court martial was told yesterday. It happened after Petty Officers Stephen Brittain, 34, and Vincent Hall, 33, met Sian Jones and Catherine Longlands in a pub in Plymouth, said Lieutenant Commander Alan Large, for the prosecution. It was one of a series of charges denied by both men, he told the hearing, which continues.

Cancer mouse protest

Animal welfare groups have appealed to the European Patent Office against the granting of a patent to a mouse genetically engineered to develop cancer. Declaring that the development was morally wrong, 25 groups from 12 countries want the patent, granted in May last year, to be revoked. The mouse has been designed to test drugs.

Cold war spy dies



The Soviet spy Helen Kroger, who with her husband stole defence secrets from the United States and Britain in the 1950s, died last month, Russian intelligence officials said yesterday. Kroger, 79, right, whose real name was Leontina Cohen, brought the cold war to English suburbia, transmitting military secrets from a cul-de-sac in Ruislip, west London.

Obituary, page 19

Students spurn loans

Ministers expect that just over half of Britain's students will take out loans in the next two years, instead of the 80 per cent originally forecast, a report by the National Audit Office has confirmed. The cost of administering each loan has fallen from £48 to £28 and last year 36 per cent of students used the scheme.

Mouth cancer warning

People who smoke more than 40 cigarettes a day for more than 20 years and drink more than 15 pints of beer or 30 glasses of wine a week are 37 times likelier to develop oral cancer, figures from the Cancer Research Campaign show. Tobacco and alcohol, acting either alone or together, are being blamed for signs that oral cancer is on the increase.

Passport to France

On Friday The Times presents a 16-page supplement, the first of three weekly guides to France's cities and coasts, mountains and countryside. Follow one of the specially devised tours covering a classic piece of French countryside, giving sightseeing details and recommending restaurants and hotels; discover the seven pleasures of France with Theodore Zeldin; use Robin Young's key information on the cross-Channel ferries and his in-depth guide to all the services at the French ports; and explore the heart of Paris in the footsteps of its great literary figures with Andy Martin.

Save money on a spring holiday

To coincide with the launch of this Passport to France supplement, The Times begins a series of special offers to Britain's favourite holiday destination. In the first, The Times has organised money-saving offers with the Stena Sealink Line. Readers can take advantage of the new duty-free allowances, enjoy the French cuisine and explore the local beauty spots. Save up to £73 on a ten-day return trip to either Calais, Cherbourg or Dieppe; or take advantage of our £50 holiday voucher on a motoring holiday on the Continent.

Feud spoils Christie's big day

BY SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

A FEUD between the heirs of a late art collector has forced Christie's to cancel a $3.5 million auction planned to launch the 1993 season.

The first half of the Arthur M. Sackler collection of rare Renaissance pottery had been scheduled for sale in New York today. Last week, however, the appellate division of the New York Supreme Court served an injunction preventing the sale, following legal action by Mr Sackler's widow.

Gillian Sackler, whose husband was best known in this country for having financed the Royal Academy's new extension, says it was his intention to place the collection on a ten-year loan to the Washington. She sued her fellow executors — who include Mr Sackler's first wife, Elsa, and two of his children, Carol Master and Arthur F. Sackler, to prevent the collection being broken up.

"Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been wasted," said Joseph Kartiganer, the lawyer for the Sackler estate. "If we get to proceed with the sale we are going to have to start all over again."

The 144-piece collection of majolica pottery has been described by Christie's as the largest holding of majolica to come on the market since the 1960s. It includes examples from Eastern Spain as well as most of the major pottery Deruta, Gubbio, Urbino and Venice. Many, such as a 16th century charger painted by Nicola da Urbino and estimated at $60,000, depict lively classical tales.

Patricia Hambrecht, Christie's lawyer for the past four years, said: "It is the first time in my experience that a sale has been cancelled. It is a major headache."

Mr Sackler, a Polish-born scientist and philanthropist, was, from the forties onwards, a voracious art collector known for his generosity in lending to exhibitions. One of his favourite sayings was: "Great art doesn't belong to anybody. Never did. Never will." Born in 1914, he died in

Computer industry acts to halt spread of playground porn

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

■ Computer technology may be giving schoolchildren access to interactive games of sex and violence at pocket-money prices

GROWING concern that children are being exposed to hard-core pornography through their home computers has prompted an investigation by the British Computer Society.

The nature of the material was illustrated by recent seizures by Greater Manchester police,who discovered more than 8,000 copies of programs depicting acts ranging from bestiality and gay sex to child abuse and rape. Some programs consisted of high-quality moving images of people suffering violent deaths.

Zab Chughtai, who has been investigating the trade for BBC2's *Reportage*, said yesterday that she had been astonished by the quality of the material. "I imagined they would be graphics of women with caricatured figures but these are like high-quality blue movies," she said.

Guy Cumberbatch, an applied psychologist and director of the communications research group at Aston University, said the material could give children dreams and nightmares. Assessing the long-term impact was, however, very difficult, he said. Dr Cumberbatch said parents should be vigilant and warned that worries about computer pornography were part of a general concern over children's access to electronically displayed images of sex and violence.

"Many children now have television sets in their own rooms and many are getting video recorders. It would be very unfortunate if parents were not aware of what children were watching as they need to talk about experiences which may disturb them, produce nightmares or lead to distorted thinking about the real world," said Dr Cumberbatch.

The floppy disks, most of which are believed to have originated in either the United States or the Netherlands, can be bought for as little as 89p in playgrounds. They carry images copied from photographs, cine films, videos, cartoons and movies. The extent of computer pornography is not known but is believed to be spreading.

Obscene disks, some of which have been sold to children, have been found in the North West, Swindon, Wiltshire and in Guilford, Surrey. There is believed to be a thriving illegal trade in London. Dealers, some of them children, obtain the material by mail order through computer magazines.

Other material comes on CD-rom and, more worrying for police, through international computer bulletin boards which are not subject to any customs control. For the price of an overseas phone call obscene material can be loaded onto a home computer. It can be easily copied and distributed.

What worries the police and the society is that, unlike traditional pornography, some of the computer material is interactive. A child can use a joystick to control a pornographic scene. Much computer pornography is untitled and designed to deceive parents and the police. Some programs self-destruct if the wrong password is used and others can quickly switch to display an innocent-looking game.

Ron McQuaker, the society's vice-president responsible for professional affairs, said its first move was to make members aware of the threat. Legal experts would also be examining the law, which might need extending.

Dr Catherine Itzin, a Bradford University researcher in violence, abuse and gender who is working with the society, said computer pornography could be the trigger for wide-ranging legal changes. She is working with MPs to frame laws that relate to potential harm caused by pornography rather than its ability to corrupt and deprave.

John Ashley, from the obscene publications department of Greater Manchester police, said yesterday: "The existing law has not yet been tested. The successful prosecutions have all been guilty pleas".

ADRIAN BROOKS



Steely determination: Dawn Fitt, 25, named Young Woman Engineer of the Year, holds the trophy presented to her at the Royal Society of Arts in London by Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of the Science Museum trustees. She works at Froude Consine in Worcester

Charity 'a Tory front'

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A LABOUR MP is asking the National Audit Office and the Charity Commissioners to investigate whether a government-funded charity set up to advise schools on the mechanics of opting out has become a "Tory front organisation".

Stephen Byers, MP for Wallsend, has asked for the investigation into links between the Grant Maintained Schools Centre and the campaigning group, Choice in Education. The groups share the same registered office and telephone number, and are both chaired by Sir Robert Balchin. Sir Robert said that the government's grant was used only for the purposes for which it was intended, and regular reports to the education department showed in detail how it was spent. It had never been a secret that he chaired both organisations.

The centre receives £760,000 to advise schools which have voted for grant-maintained status, whereas Choice in Education is dedicated to persuading schools to opt out. Mr Byers said: "In my view, the schools centre is simply a Tory front organisation which uses public funds to support the campaigning activities of Choice in Education. There is clearly enough evidence to merit a full investigation."

Optimism on graduate jobs

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE graduate jobs market is beginning to show signs of recovery, even though the number of vacancies is still falling, careers advisers and employers reported yesterday.

Large firms are pulling out of the "milk round" of campus visits and some, such as Ford, are recruiting no graduates. But small companies are entering the market for the first time, fuelling optimism that an upturn will start in 1994.

The annual assessment of employment prospects by the main recruiters' and careers organisations predicts a drop of up to 21 per cent in this year's vacancies, although there are hopes of some improvement by the autumn. Demand for graduates fell by 14 per cent last year.

The decline was not general since almost a third of the organisations surveyed had increased their intake of graduates in the past year. Industrial employers were expecting the decline in their vacancies to slow up in the coming months. Those cutting back were responding to the economic climate, or restructuring management.

The report urges students to spread their job applications widely and not to give up hope of a job. Tom Frank, chairman of the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, said: "It is not all gloom. I still firmly believe that higher education is a good investment for the jobs market. We are never going to return to the palmy days of the 1980s, but there is a strong current of opinion among employers that the tide is turning."

Companies are reluctant to make long-term forecasts, but three-quarters of those surveyed expected to maintain or increase graduate recruitment in the next three years. Growth is expected to be stronger among small and medium-size firms than among largest employers. Mr Frank said: "The turnover in big firms has been tiny, so many feel they do not need a big intake of people who will take time to become productive. But dropping out of the graduate market completely leaves an awful gap in management succession and means that firms lose credibility on campuses."

Although competition for the best graduates remains fierce, the proportion of companies meeting their recruitment targets reached an all-time high in 1992. Only 15 per cent of organisations reported a shortfall last year, compared with 40 per cent between 1985 and 1989.

The new climate is reflected in starting salaries for graduates, which rose by only 2.4 per cent to an average of £12,800 in 1992. Pay at the top end of the market kept pace with inflation.

The way it isn't



THERE was furore, uproar and triple consternation yesterday at the announcement of the list of the 20 Most Insensitive Middle-Aged Novelists, compiled by a panel of experts.

"The reading public is increasingly only interested in feuds and rows among authors, though it reserves a special place in its heart for accusation, counter-accusation and thoroughly disgraceful behaviour," said a spokesman yesterday. "So we are helping them by pointing out the 20 middle-aged novelists most likely to perform cantankerously in newspapers and on television over the next decade."

Many of the authors on the present list rocketed to fame just over a decade ago when they were included on a list of the 20 Most Sensitive and Unassuming Young Novelists. Yet many of the older generation — recently honoured in the W.H. Smith "20 Grumpiest and Touchiest Old Men of Letters" list — feel that it is too early for them to be entered in the pantheon of the Insensitive Middle Aged.

"In my day," barked Sir Kingsley Amis from an upstairs window last night, "We were miles more insensitive. We would stay up all night polishing our invective and nurturing our jealousies ready for *London's Diary* the following morning. This younger, so-called middle-aged lot just don't have the stomach. Now be off with you!"

Meanwhile, all hell is expected to break out tomorrow from those excluded from the long-awaited list of the 20 Most Bitter and Twisted Would-Be Novelists Over 60 Still Struggling With Their First Paragraph.

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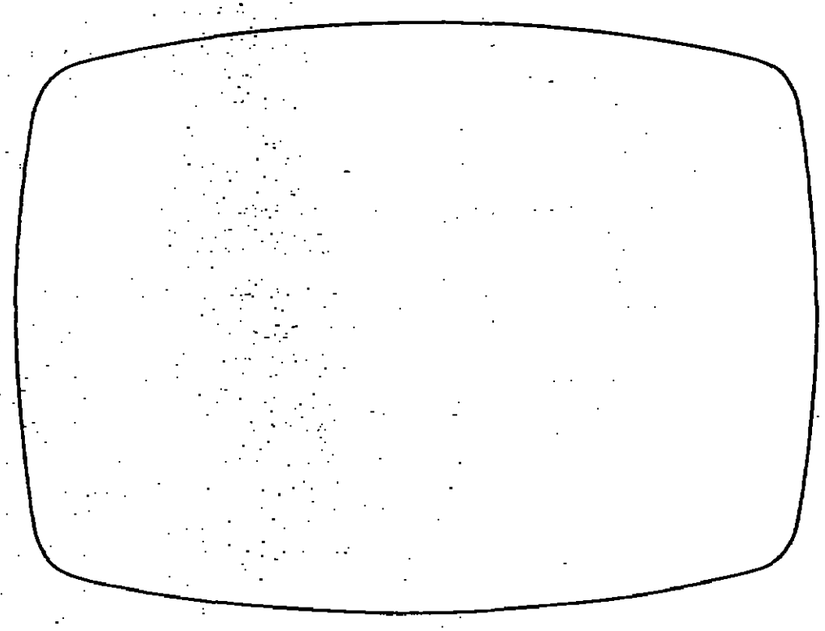
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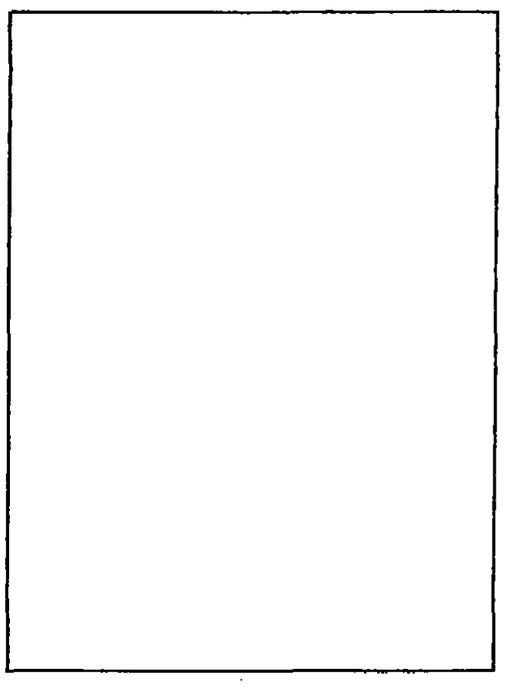
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USE THE POWER OF THE PRESS

MacGregor rejects claims of U-turn on rail privatisation

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

JOHN MacGregor, the transport secretary, yesterday reiterated his commitment to press ahead with rail privatisation during a Labour initiated debate in the Commons.

Mr MacGregor said opponents of the privatisation were "totally wrong" to claim that the government had done a U-turn or that the original plans had been abandoned. The first pilot franchises, as spelt out in the privatisation white paper, would be announced "very soon". Privatisation would not be rushed and the franchising process would take up to 12 years.

Mr MacGregor also announced detailed rail safety recommendations from the independent Health and Safety Commission, which have been accepted in full by the government and British Rail. The commission has made 38 recommendations for changes to rail safety standards in response to the changing structure of the railways.

The government was particularly concerned that private railway operators "are properly equipped and organised in order to give confidence that risk will be effectively controlled right from the start".

Earlier, Mr MacGregor had brought forward publication of the commission's report, *Ensuring Safety on Britain's Railways*, after MPs complained that they had not been able to get hold of copies in advance of the debate.

John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, who opened the debate on a Labour motion opposing privatisation, said it would undermine safety standards and that "a central chain of command" would be needed for good safety on the railways.

Mr MacGregor dealt with another key concern about the post-privatisation railway when he announced a joint industry pension scheme to succeed the current BR scheme as well as safeguards for the pension rights of BR employees. Future pension benefits "should be no less favourable than in the present BR scheme", he said. However, the new franchise companies would not be saddled with the burden of paying the pensions of existing pensioners, he said.

Mr Prescott said that all the government's previous attempts to bring private sector management and capital into the network had failed. He criticised the "13 quangos" that would created to administer and regulate the privatised network. The need was for "modernisation of the railway system, not privatisation", he said.

Gwyneth Dunwoody, a Labour member of the Commons transport select committee, said the uncertainty would lead to a "flight away from the carriage of freight", leaving thousands of railway staff in further doubt about their future.

The Liberal Democrats' acceptance of private involvement in the railways did not extend to the lengths the government was proposing to go, said Nick Harvey, the party's transport spokesman.

Robert Adley, Tory chairman of the all-party transport select committee, and an outspoken opponent of the government's privatisation plans, said the success of the Chiltern line to the west of London showed that ownership was totally irrelevant and that if there was investment the service improved.



BR signals: John MacGregor, left, the transport secretary, confronts John Prescott over the rail sell-off

Lone parents pledged 'sensitive' treatment

BY SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SINGLE mothers who refuse to name their child's father for fear of violence were promised "sensitive" treatment from officials by Alistair Burt, the junior social security minister, yesterday.

He took the rare step of issuing the guidelines for staff at the Child Support Agency when they start questioning lone parents from April about the lack of maintenance paid by absentee fathers.

If single parents refuse to divulge details without a satisfactory reason they could lose 20 per cent of income support, amounting to £8.80 a week, for six months and 10 per cent of income support for a further 12 months.

Mr Burt insisted that lone parents "will be believed" if they have a genuine reason for refusing to name the other parent, such as a history of violence. "I am conscious of concern which has been expressed in relation to this aspect of our child support policy," he said. "I hope the publication of these guidelines will reassure those who have been concerned as I am determined to demonstrate that there is nothing hidden in the way in which the Child Support Agency will operate."



Burt: issued guidelines on absent fathers

He said that only 1 per cent of mothers who have never been married refuse to name the absent father because they fear violence. In about 18 per cent of cases, mothers are unable to give details of the father and in about 5 per cent of cases a mother does not want to name him.

The government estimates that tracking down absentee parents and compelling them to pay maintenance will save £500 million a year in benefit payments.

Heseltine gives options for saving pits

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, last night presented his options for reprieving up to half the 31 doomed pits to the prime minister and the Chancellor.

The meeting, which was also attended by Tim Eggar, the energy minister, and Michael Portillo, the chief secretary to the Treasury, will pave the way for a further government climbdown over its pit closure programme. Downing Street emphasised that the meeting was only a preliminary discussion of ideas. Mr Heseltine is still awaiting the final report from engineering consultants who have looked at the viability of 21 of the pits.

The cabinet agreed to a review of the pit closure programme after admitting that it would not get through the Commons last October. While it is now thought that ten to 15 pits will be reprieved to save political face, the Treasury is expected to fight the more expensive options.

Some cabinet ministers are privately distancing themselves from Mr Heseltine's cause and blaming him for an error of judgment. One minister said that the public furore following Mr Heseltine's announcement last October prevented the implementation of other potentially unpopular cost-saving initiatives.

None of the options being considered are cost neutral. Although the front runner is thought to be a coal subsidy, this could result in higher electricity bills which would be opposed by MPs, if the Treasury refused to provide extra funding. Options which Mr Heseltine is still said to be considering include:

- ☐ Increasing productivity by changes in work practices.
- ☐ Selling pits to the private sector.
- ☐ Mothballing several pits.
- ☐ Reducing the costs of coal through a levy or subsidy.
- ☐ Reviewing the "dash for gas".

Mr Heseltine is looking at ways of encouraging electricity companies to buy more coal by, for example, offering subsidised coal on condition that they agree to contracts for a specified amount of coal at the normal rate.

During question time yesterday, Dennis Skinner, the Labour MP for Bolsover, called on the prime minister to provide a subsidy equal to half that given to the nuclear industry. This, he said, would save all the 31 pits and all the 100,000 jobs which would be lost through the closure programme. At present the nuclear industry gets a £1.2 billion subsidy which is financed by an 11 per cent increase in electricity bills.

Working classes lose faith in the Conservative party

BY PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Tories have lost support since the April general election most heavily among working-class households and among those living in the North of England.

This is shown by an analysis of the aggregated Market & Opinion Research International's (Mori) voting intentions polls over the October to December quarter of last year.

Comparing that period with the previous three months, Tory support fell by five points to 34 per cent, as against 43 per cent at the time of the general election. By contrast, Labour support rose from 43 to 47 per cent, compared with 35 per cent at the general election.

This shift represents a Tory/Labour swing since the general election of 10.5 per cent. However, swings of that level and above were recorded among 35- to 54-year-olds (10.5 per cent), the households of C2 skilled workers (12 per cent), the families of unskilled DE workers (11 per cent), in the North (12.5 per cent), and among non-trade unionists (10.5 per cent).

The sharp drop in Tory support since the April general election is in marked contrast to what happened after the 1987 election. Then, the Conservative share of the vote remained above the June 1987 level of 43 per cent until the first quarter of 1989. This was partly because of a decline in support for the then Liberal Alliance in the light of the split in the Social Democratic Party and the arguments leading up to the formation of the Liberal Democrats in the summer of 1988.

Combined support for the Liberal Democrats and the independent SDP fell from 23 per cent in June 1987 to a low point of 6 per cent at the end of 1989. The rating of the Liberal Democrats on their own was then 4 per cent.

By contrast, support for the Liberal Democrats now has only slipped slightly from the election level of 18 per cent to 15 per cent in the October to December period.

The latest figures also underline the sharp drop in satisfaction with both the government and with John Major since the April election. This links with a deterioration in the index measuring optimism about the general economic outlook. This reached a low point in September/October in the wake of the drop of confidence following the sterling crisis during the early autumn.

The government's troubles improved Labour's rating but have not yet had a significant impact on the standing of John Smith, the party's leader since mid-July last year. While the proportion of voters dissatisfied with his record is much lower than Neil Kinnock faced up to July, Mr Smith's satisfaction rating is little higher than his predecessor's.

☐ *Mori interviewed a representative sample of 5,470 adults aged 18 plus at home between October and December, 1992. Data were weighted to match the profile of the population. Party support figures exclude those who said they would not vote (7 per cent), undecided (5 per cent) or refused to name a party (2 per cent).*

Copyright: Mori/Times Newspapers.

Q: How would you vote if there was a general election tomorrow? (If undecided or refused)
Q: Which party are you most inclined to support?

	Con	Lab	L/Dem	Green	Other	C lead
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Apr GE	43	35	18	1	2	+8
Jun 1992	43	38	16	1	2	+5
Sep 1992	39	43	14	1	3	-4
Dec 1992	34	47	15	1	2	-13

Q: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way . . .

- **The government is running the country?**
- **Mr Major is doing his job as prime minister?**
- **Mr Kinnock/Mr Smith is doing his job as leader of the Labour party?**
- **Mr Ashdown is doing his job as leader of the Democrats?**

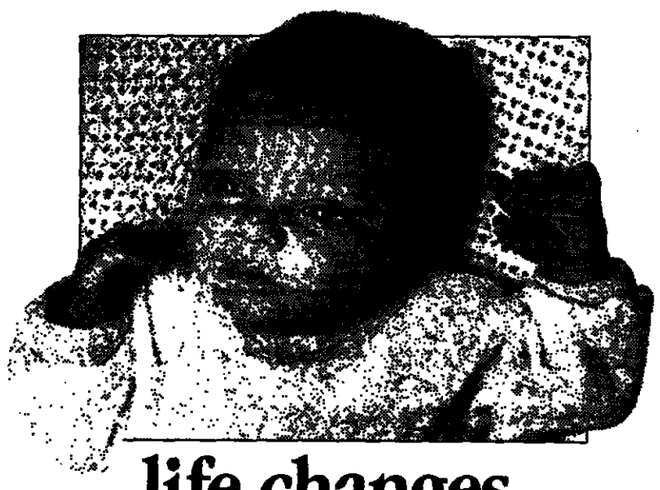
	Govt		Major		Kin/Smith		Ashdown	
	Sat	Dis	Sat	Dis	Sat	Dis	Sat	Dis
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Apr 1992	40	50	55	35	33	53	52	27
Jun 1992	34	56	51	39	27	60	48	31
Sep 1992	18	75	33	60	33	21	48	28
Dec 1992	14	78	28	64	35	31	43	33

Q: Do you think that the general economic condition of the country will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

	Improve	Same	Worse	Net Improve
	%	%	%	%
Apr 1992	43	28	22	+21
Jun 1992	28	36	31	-3
Sep 1992	20	24	52	-32
Dec 1992	25	29	41	-16

Source Mori

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You go on holiday. You take time off to improve your career. You start a business. You work all hours. You save for your daughter's wedding.

You go on holiday. Perhaps you get divorced. You may start another family. You think about retiring. You retire. You find you're worth more than you think.

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AROUND THE LOBBY

Reynolds keeps hold on power

Having voted for radic change, the Irish Repub yesterday emerged fro seven weeks of politic negotiations with Albe Reynolds remaining taoiseach (Richard Fo writes).

In a further twist Fianr Fail, a populist conserv tive party, formed a coa tion administration wi Labour, a party with tl rhetoric of the left. Almo two months ago Labour leader said that fundame tal change had to tal place in Fianna Fail an castigated its leader.

The government's 6(page programme is lon on aspirations but short o the costs of its proposal Labour's input into th document is seen mo clearly in plans for state-le intervention to cut unem ployment, running at a most 20 per cent. Th programme makes n mention of articles two ad three of the Irish constitution, which claim territorial jurisdiction over Northe Ireland. It will continue operate the agreement al has said it will try to get t talks process on Northe Ireland restarted.

Union seeks to heal rift

Britain's biggest trac union split is a step clos to being bridged. Th Amalgamated Engine ing and Electrical Unio executive voted unanimously to ballot its one million members ad recommend a vote in vour of the merged unn affiliating to the TUC, fir and a half years after it as expelled for refusing to cept TUC rulings in twe ter-union disputes. Te former EETPU electricians' union has sin merged with the engine to become the AEEU.

Good work



A bill to improve the standards of the professions such a lawyers and accountants was introduced by Roger Evans, above, Tory MP for Mo mouth. He said the time had come for the se regularing professions to put in place a system f dealing with sub-standard work and for compensating the public. The professional standards bill has no chance of becoming law.

Price of EC

The cost to the taxpayer o Britain holding the EC presidency was about £15.8 million, Tristan Garel-Jones, Foreign Office minister, said in a written reply. The figure includes the Birmingham and Edinburgh summits and the London conference on Yugoslavia.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. European Communities (amendment) bill, committee, third day.

Politicians escape new rules on honesty

BY JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

NEW rules for political advertising will force government departments and pressure groups to back up claims with hard facts, the Advertising Standards Authority said yesterday. But political parties will still be under no obligation to be honest and truthful in their advertising.

Advertisers addressing matters of public debate, such as charities or unions, have been exempt from the "factually provable" part of the ASA's rules that all commercial advertisements should be legal, decent, honest, truthful and responsible. Unsubstantiated claims by political parties in election included the Tory prediction that the taxpayer would pay £1,000 more a year under Labour, while Labour insisted that its rivals would privatise the NHS.

Sir Timothy Raison, chairman of the ASA, the independent body which controls the content of advertisements in all non-broadcast media, said it would be impractical to extend the rules to cover such advertisements. "The parties are appealing to the electorate, and I think the electorate is a pretty sophisticated bunch who can recognise a false claim for what it's worth," he said.

Richard Wade, chairman of the committee which drew up the code, said: "It simply would not be possible to deal with a claim of inaccuracy during an election campaign. We would take days to respond, the press would take hours." He added that Labour had been the only big political party to support the idea backing claims with fact.

David Hill, Labour's director of communications, said he regretted the decision not to clamp down on party political advertising, but welcomed the fact that government departments' advertising would have to have a factual basis. Labour had been particularly angered by specified amounts of tax if different earners would allegedly have to pay under a Labour government, he said. "There is a difference between the general cut and thrust and certain advertisements which are deliberately misleading."

Under the new rules parties will no longer be able to make emotional appeals without producing the facts to support them. Matti Alderson, director general of the ASA, said: "A national environmental pressure group which tells us to stop using CFCs because they are destroying the ozone layer would have to back this aim up with scientific proof."

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هكذا من الأصل

How vengeance drives Saddam's cat and mouse game



Saddam: obsessional hatred of Bush

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's desperate attempts to provoke a new conflict with the West are dictated by a mix of domestic and international factors, combined with determination to boost his standing on the eve of this weekend's emotive second anniversary of the start of the Gulf war.

Recent visitors to Baghdad believe that punishing shortages caused by the increasing bite of United Nations sanctions and the depletion of Iraq's currency reserves had forced the Iraqi leader to take diversionary action to ensure that the blame is deflected towards America and its allies.

"There is no doubting that a rallying cry against Western aggression is effective in mobilising opinion behind Saddam," said a European businessman who was in Iraq recently. "There is so little available now and at such a high price that the time was ripe for provoking a new crisis. Having President Bush in his final days added to the temptation."

Robert Gates, the director of the CIA, who was in Jordan last year to help supervise the running of covert operations against Iraq from Amman, said that attempts to divert popular attention away from growing local difficulties was one of three main reasons governing Saddam's decision to provoke the allies now.

The CIA chief listed another as his need to show independence and confront America as a result of pressure from the ruling clan, from his home town of Tikrit, who stand to fall if he should ever be toppled. "The third is that he may feel that he had an opportunity to try to push back these UN resolutions and gain a little more running room during the transition in the US," Mr Gates added.

Arab diplomats familiar with thinking inside Baghdad's tight-knit regime believe that obsessional personal hatred of President Bush also plays an important role in explaining the Iraqi leader's obstinacy in pursuing his game of cat and mouse. "If you look at his past career, you will see that personal revenge has often played a significant and bloody part," one Cairo-based diplomat said. "Before, the violence was often inflicted by his hands on the individuals concerned. This time he is letting the state do it for him."

Laurie Mylroie, respected joint author of *Saddam Hussein and the Crisis in the Gulf*, believes that Saddam may also have misread American resolve because of the weak international response to his recent successful attempt to interrupt vitally needed UN humanitarian deliveries to the Kurds in the blockaded north of Iraq.

Because of Saddam's obsession with his personal security — visitors to his inner sanctum are often subjected to the indignity of being stripped naked first — even those countries still maintaining a diplomatic presence in isolated Baghdad have little or no opportunity for judging his reasoning at close hand.

Few diplomats based there doubt that it is influenced by judgments made about possible American and world reaction gleaned from his assiduous watching of CNN. Many Saddam watchers believe that America's recent apparent obsession with events in Somalia and Bosnia convinced the Iraqi leader that President Bush would lack the resolution to deal effectively with breaches of the Gulf war ceasefire only days before he was due to hand over to Bill Clinton, the president-elect, who has so far escaped any personal abuse in the hate-filled Iraqi media.

In Baghdad, there is a growing conviction that the West's failure to respond militarily so far, despite at least four serious provocations in a week, has vindicated the interpretation by officials there that weakness in Washington is matched by differences between the UN powers over how Iraq should be treated. It is known that no Arab state outside Kuwait and some others in the Gulf supports any form of renewed attack against Iraq, fearing that it would provoke a backlash at home and further fuel Islamic fundamentalists.

As *Babel*, the propagandist Baghdad daily published by Saddam's son Uday, a leading profiteer from sanctions shortages, declared confidently yesterday: "The West covers its impotence and fear of directly confronting Iraq by showing scenes of heavily armed Stealths and Tornados performing acrobatic movements in the skies. Iraq has revived its military and material strength, and today is capable of mounting a decisive confrontation."

The Baghdad regime is aware that any renewed Western bombing or cruise missile strikes would play into its hands by rallying support among many ordinary Iraqis increasingly convinced that the UN is responsible for the growing hardship of their lives.

"A loss of military hardware or even infrastructure would not cost him much. Any civilian deaths would only increase anti-Western feeling," one Arab official said. "He was always determined to depict himself as the man who stood up victoriously to the armies of 30 countries. He is now quite ready to do so again."



Bush: challenged in his final days

Clinton's advisers struggle to gauge Baghdad strategy

■ The president-elect has pledged to toe the Bush policy line. The Pentagon is puzzling to discover what is behind Iraq's manoeuvring

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

AS PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein threw down another gauntlet yesterday and continued with his defiance of the Western powers and the United Nations, analysts in Washington and Little Rock were struggling to answer the question: "What is the Iraqi leader up to?"

Is he merely trying to taunt President Bush as he prepares to leave office, or pursuing a more devious long-range policy aimed at altering the terms of the relationship he has had with the White House since his army divisions were ousted from Kuwait? Some Arab analysts appeared to tend to the view that the latest events in Kuwait and Iraq are Saddam's way of marking the end of the bitter personal enmity between himself and President Bush and that the Iraqi leader is keen to tweak the nose of the man who defeated him in war.

Policy-makers in the State Department and the Pentagon, cautious about predicting Saddam's future moves and the reasons for them, seem convinced this time that the Iraqi leader is attempting to manoeuvre himself into a stronger position for dealing with the incoming Clinton administration.

With the American presidential inauguration only days away, Saddam's probing and challenging of the Western powers' resolve over the Gulf war ceasefire agreements has prompted American analysts and historians to recall the dangers that can accompany the transfer of White House power. Mr Clinton's political hero, John Kennedy, was quickly challenged when he entered the Oval Office by a wily foreign adversary, Nikita Khrushchev. Although acknowledging that the Iraqi leader is probably enjoying irritating Mr Bush, State Department policy-makers suspect that Saddam is beginning to focus on the Clinton factor and that he is limbering up to test the mettle of the president-elect and to see if he will blink during a challenge.

By cheating on a whole range of issues — the no-fly zone provisions in north and south Iraq, the newly defined border with Kuwait and the freedom of UN arms inspectors to move around in their search for weapons of mass destruction — Saddam is probably calculating that, although he may get punished for some of his transgressions, he could get away with others and thus establish a new set of precedents which will govern his dealings with the Clinton administration.

"I think what he's trying to do is to press in a number of areas where he has been restrained, and to try to stretch the bounds of those restraints to the maximum level before Clinton comes in," a State Department official said. Saddam has added to this effort by trying to indicate over the weekend that a new relationship with the White House is possibile when President Bush departs.

An Iraqi government spokesman accused President Bush on Sunday of trying to "burden President-elect Clinton with his policy, which is governed by personal reasons and motivated by unjustified hatred" for Saddam.

Baghdad said that "there is a possibility of dialogue" with Mr Clinton. Washington policy-makers believe that Saddam hopes he can ease relations with the White House by creating in advance a greater area of freedom for himself and then concentrate on getting the UN economic sanctions on his country lifted.

The president-elect's aides have sought in the past few days to ensure that there can be no doubt that Mr Clinton will deal toughly with Baghdad and it may be that the Iraqi leader is miscalculating.

By provoking a dark mood in Washington, Saddam has made it more likely that Mr Clinton, who has something himself to prove on the military front, will act in a hard way.

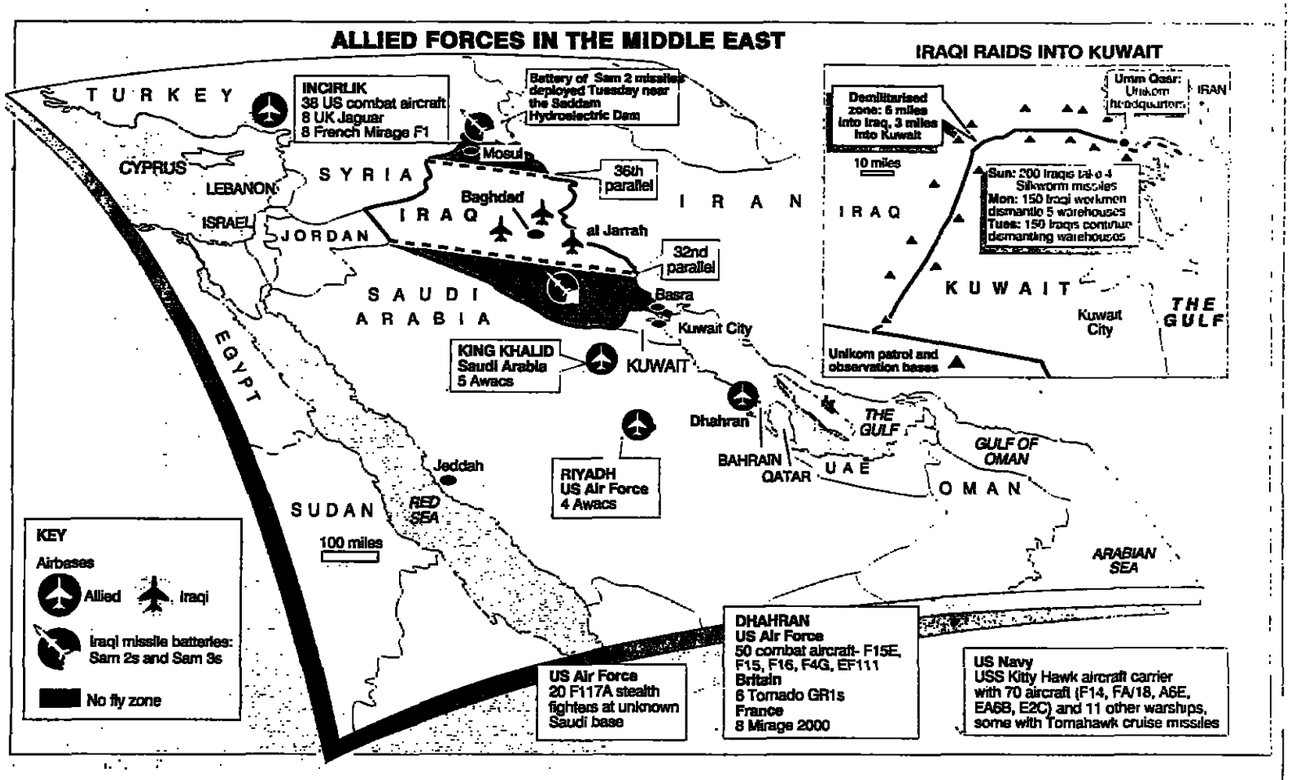
Mr Clinton's foreign experts and national security advisers have been in touch with the White House and discussions between the outgoing and incoming administrations have led to a meeting of minds on Iraq. Privately, Clinton aides say they suspect they will have to confront Baghdad early on in their administration.

In an interview on Cable Network News, Samuel Berger, Mr Clinton's deputy national security adviser, said: "There will be a fundamental continuity between the policy of a Clinton administration and the policy of the Bush administration on Iraq."

Some independent analysts worry that a perpetuation of the Bush approach will just lock Mr Clinton into Saddam's long-running game of "cheat and retreat". They want a stronger approach that will prohibit the Iraqi leader from launching embarrassing episodes of defiance.

Raymond Tanter, a political scientist, said: "If Clinton is going to follow Bush's policies, then Saddam will escalate the game of chicken."

American options, page 1



Air power ready to answer new threat

*The focus of a retaliatory attack on illegally sited Iraqi missiles has switched to the northern no-fly zone, **Michael Evans** writes*



AMERICAN, British and French aircraft, which were on high alert last week to target Iraqi missile batteries, were standing by yesterday for new battle orders over Iraq's continued defiance of United Nations authority. Coalition aircraft were also in readiness at Incirlik in Turkey.

Action by coalition bombers seems likely after it was confirmed that Iraqi anti-aircraft missile batteries north of the 36th parallel had now become operational. Coalition aircraft, including eight RAF Jaguars based at Incirlik, patrol the north to protect the Kurds.

This was a direct repetition of last week's defiant move when missiles were deployed south of the 32nd parallel where coalition aircraft patrols protect the Shia.

Yesterday's disclosure about the missiles in the north, made by General John Shalikashvili, the American supreme allied commander of Nato forces in Europe, provided the US-led coalition with due cause for striking at Iraqi military targets.

The US has said that Iraq would be attacked without warning if there were further floutings of UN resolutions. Speaking before he had heard the latest intelligence on the missile batteries, Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, said the conduct of the Iraqis "does invite a response". Very careful thought was required to decide what response, he said.

President Saddam Hussein's latest defiance was discussed during a meeting last night of the cabinet overseas and defence committee. The presence of between 150 and 200 coalition aircraft at Saudi bases and on the American carrier, *Kitty Hawk*, in the Gulf, seems to be acting as an incitement, instead of a deterrent, to Saddam.

Although the threat of air raids on Iraqi missile batteries and air bases persuaded the Iraqi leader to withdraw last Friday, he is now deliberately provoking the UN and, in particular, the US, daring coalition forces to strike.

Saddam must have calculated that the coalition would not attack Iraqi targets in retaliation for the incursions over the Kuwaiti border. Those raids, by unarmed "civilian" Iraqis, presented the US, Britain and France with a dilemma. Had Iraq failed to withdraw the missile batteries last week from south of the 32nd parallel, coalition air strikes would have been viewed as justified, appropriate and desirable.

Defence sources said yesterday that last week it had been decided to launch strikes on Iraqi targets if Saddam refused to move the missile batteries. But if an attack were to be launched in response to the border incursions, there was concern whether it would be supported by the UN Security Council? The deployment of missile batteries in the north, however, seemed likely to remove any such doubts.

Saddam has already been undermining the northern no-fly zone, blocking food, fuel and other supplies to the Kurds. His agents are believed to be behind a bombing campaign against UN and other relief workers.

Aircraft ready for action last night included American F117A Stealth fighters, F15Es and carrier-borne F14s and F/A18s, as well as British Tornado GR1s and French Mirage 2000s. The principal aim would be to damage Saddam's credibility and support within Iraq without causing any collateral damage that might affect the civilian population.

The ideal solution would be to target Saddam himself, but as was discovered during the Gulf war, there is no way of knowing where he is. An attack on a military bunker in Baghdad would have to be ruled out because of the risk of killing civilians.

Social life at Democrat White House to get Bloomingdale woman's touch

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

SALONS all over Georgetown were abuzz yesterday after Hillary Clinton finally made the appointment many Washington hostesses have awaited, naming Ann Stock to be White House social secretary. Mrs Stock, vice-president of public relations at Bloomingdale's department store in New York, has resigned to take the job, which requires a byzantine mind, a veteran courtier's social graces, and a saint's patience.

The social secretary wields remarkable power, and Mrs Stock will henceforth have the sensitive political task of deciding who should be invited to the Clinton White House and, perhaps more pleasurably, who should not. While the Clintons will themselves choose those with whom they fraternise closely, Mrs Stock will largely control the more formal guest-list for many functions, exercising the power of social life and death over hundreds of Democrats excluded from the White House for 12 Republican years.

Although it is thought that Mrs Clinton decided on Mrs Stock at least a month ago, competition for the post is said to have been fierce. "It always Reagan's former press secretary, told *The New York Times*. Other possible candidates included Susan O'Neill, daughter of Thomas O'Neill, the former House Speaker, and Liz Stevens, wife of the film director George Steveris.

Mrs Stock, 46, has long taken an interest in politics, acting as deputy press secretary to Walter Mondale when he was vice-president in the early 1980s, but her choice as White House social secretary is said to have surprised (for which read irked) some Washingtonians who reportedly felt that others (for which read themselves) were more prominent on the social circuit.

As social secretary, Mrs Stock will be expected to steer the Clintons through the sometimes unpredictable waters of Washington high society, ensure that the right people are invited to the right occasions and, depending on Mrs Clinton's wishes, act as a front-woman and shield for the first lady. In her controversial biography of Nancy Reagan, Kitty Kelley portrayed the job of social secretary as somewhere between a wardrobe consultant and a social bodyguard.



Hillary Clinton: her choice surprised many

Stuart Stock, a partner in a law firm, and has a son of 13. A graduate of Purdue University, she learnt the art of public relations as a volunteer helping to raise money to open the Capital Children's Museum.

☐ **Political speak:** Washington is full of pitfalls for the newly elected congressman; not the least of these is having to provide an answer, any answer, when some damn-fool journalist asks you a question.

To welcome in the new Congress, the satirical magazine *Spy* telephoned selected victims and pretended to interview them for a live New York interview, the bogus talk-show host sent down a googly: "What should we be doing to stop the ethnic cleansing in Freedonia [a place which does not exist outside the mind of the Marx brothers]?"

Newly elected Democratic Representative Corinne Brown was prepared to take a stand on the issue. "I think all of those situations are very, very sad," she said, "and I just think we need to take action to assist the people."

Representative James Talent (Republican Missouri) was the most forthright: "I think anything we can do to use the good offices of the US government to assist stopping the killing over there, we should do," he said.

But when asked a follow-up question on whether he was a dog-person or a cat-person, he was more cagey. "Basically a dog person," he began. Then he paused: "I certainly, though, wouldn't want to offend my constituents who are cat people, and I should say that, being, I hope, a sensitive person, that I have nothing against cats, and had cats when I was a boy, and if we didn't have the two dogs might very well be interested in having a cat now."

Artificial heart given to woman

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A NEW kind of artificial heart was given to a woman in Arizona yesterday only hours after a man in Pennsylvania was given a baboon's liver.

The heart was the first to be tried since the American government approved limited use of such implants two years ago. The patient, Sharoyn Loughran, 46, was described by doctors who operated on her at the University Medical Centre in Tucson as being in a stable condition. Mrs Loughran, who had been suffering progressive heart failure, is expected to receive a human heart in a few months.

In Pittsburgh, a 62-year-old man whose liver had been damaged by hepatitis was recovering after receiving the baboon organ.

The two operations highlight a renewed interest in the transplant of living and artificial organs through better technologies and drugs which help to minimise rejection by the body's immune system. The artificial heart, designed and built by CardioWest Technologies, is a development of

Republicans already staking claims for 1996 nomination

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

IT IS three years and 10 months before the next presidential election and Bill Clinton has yet to be inaugurated, but already the battle for the Republican party's soul, and hence the 1996 nomination, is under way.

Two likely contenders — Jack Kemp, President Bush's housing secretary, and William Bennett, his former White House drugs tsar — yesterday launched Empower America, a Washington-based organisation to promote neo-conservative principles as opposed to the isolationist, protectionist "palaeo-conservatism" championed by Pat Buchanan. "Mr Buchanan would not find our group congenial," said Mr Bennett.

This followed the establishment by Republican moderates last month of the Republican Majority Coalition as a power base for those determined to counter the growing power of the Christian Right within the party. In particular the coalition aims to promote social tolerance and end the Republicans' commitment to banning abortions.

Individuals are already throwing down markers for 1996. Mr Kemp and Mr Bennett, the defence secretary, has now publicly acknowledged his interest, as have Vice-President Dan Quayle and Lamar Alexander, the education secretary. Senator Phil Gramm of Texas is expounding a "peace and prosperity" programme.

Robert Dole, the Senate minority leader who next week becomes the Republicans' de facto leader in Washington, would be 73 in 1996, but has evidently not ruled out a final bid. He is reportedly trying to create a post of general party chairman for his ally, Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, presumably to give him control of the party apparatus.

Empower America, whose co-founders also include Jeanne Kirkpatrick, President Reagan's UN ambassador, and Vin Weber, an influential former congressman from Minnesota, will essentially promote a Reaganite creed of strong international leadership, free trade, smaller government, lower taxes, deregulation and cultural conservatism, but with two important differences. It will advocate programmes to help the poor by "empowering" them to help themselves. Mr Kemp created a "nanny state" that "takes too much from us in order to do too much for us". He also suggested Mr Reagan had not followed through on his philosophy. His low-tax, pro-growth policies greatly increased revenues. "The problem was that we spent all of that and added a lot more spending on to it."

☐ **Quick approval:** the Senate finance committee, which Lloyd Bentsen has headed for six years, took the unusual step of unanimously confirming his nomination as treasury secretary before it heard from him and even before the nomination was received by the Senate.

President-elect Clinton cannot formally submit his cabinet nominations until he takes office next week.

Nevertheless, Mr Bentsen told senators yesterday that tax increases and cuts in popular benefit programmes would have to be considered if the government's record budget deficit were to be controlled. Mr Bentsen cautioned senators that they may have to take some risks to bring about President-elect Clinton's goal of giving every worker "a personal chance at the Ameri-

Homeless Muslims try to flee Bombay

■ The riots have exacerbated the paralysis gripping the government of P. V. Narasimha Rao. Hopes for an Indian secular society are being consumed in the flames of hatred

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN BOMBAY

TENS of thousands of Muslims and Hindus, but mostly Muslims, are now homeless after a week of rioting in Bombay. Victoria Terminus, the huge Gothic railway station, was crammed last night with Muslims who were hoping to escape north.

Although violence abated as the army took to the streets, curfews in at least 20 districts kept people at home and India's commercial capital remained practically at a standstill. The streets have been littered with bricks, and hundreds of slum houses were still smouldering yesterday after another night of violence.

The chaotic scenes at the rail terminal revealed the extent of panic. Some families had been waiting for days for a train. Most are living on bread. Water supplies are erratic and toilet facilities inadequate.

Many Muslims in Bombay are from the northern states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, and Indian Railways is laying on special trains to carry them back. For now, at least, the north is quiet, but extremist Hindus are almost certainly planning more trouble there to keep the Delhi government off balance. The aim is to force the country into an early general election to capitalise on the Hindu militancy sweeping some of the politically crucial northern states.

The fact that the Bombay riots were orchestrated is a further sign of the paralysis which has gripped the administration and, in particular, its prime minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, a frail elder statesman who has all but vanished from public life, choosing instead to work from his home.

The malaise in the governing Congress (I) party, which has ruled India for most of its 46 years of independence, has given Hindu extremists their chance. Hindu fundamentalism is no stronger than it was, but the Congress party is weaker. The Nehrus dominated it, centralised it, split it, killed the grassroots and brooked no rivals. Without the dynasty, the party is dying.

The central party pillar of socialism has collapsed, and the other, secularism, has been weakened. Rajiv Gandhi, the former prime minister, exposed its moral bankruptcy three years ago when he ordered the locked doors of the disputed Babri mosque in Ayodhya to be opened to Hindus, which did more to demoralise India's 120 million Muslims than almost any single act since independence. Mr Gandhi thought it would rally the Hindu vote.

The latest of many recent insults to Muslims came on Monday when prominent Hindu leaders, who had been jailed on charges of inciting religious conflict, were released without precondition and "with honour" by a magistrate acting on political instructions. The legal system was thus exposed as politicised and pro-Hindu.

The next stage of the Hindu extremist advance will start to unfold now that Lal Krishna Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi, and other prominent hardline Hindus are out of jail. The so-called communal violence in Bombay, as in northern India and in the western state of Gujarat, was orchestrated, and while passions are high the mobs can be mobilised again at will. That will doubtless happen.

Religious riots in India are never for real: they take organisation and money. The extremists know they will not be able to keep the temperature high indefinitely, which is why they are clamouring for an early general election. The government's only weapon against them is time.

The official death toll given in Bombay last night was just over 200, but the real figure may be double that. Shiv Sena, a violent Hindu party, was largely responsible for the worst bloodletting in the city since independence. Bal Thackeray, its leader, admitted as much when he announced on Sunday night that he was issuing instructions for the violence to cease. He said it would take a day or two for a substantial measure of peace to return, and he was precisely right.

He is king of the Bombay streets: one word and India's commercial capital will be ablaze again.



Weighed down: a Buddhist monk assisting Sri Lankan wildlife officials to administer saline to an elephant which collapsed exhausted in an affluent residential area of Colombo yesterday, causing a traffic jam. After treatment, the animal recovered, was helped to its feet, and led away

Suu Kyi sentenced to 'living death'

BY DAVID WATTS

BURMA'S government has sentenced Aung San Suu Kyi, the opposition leader, to a virtual living death by insisting that the "next government" must resolve her case.

With the constitutional convention abruptly cancelled until next month, any new administration is perhaps years away. If and when there is agreement on its composition, a new regime would be influenced by the military, so that the government appears to be signalling it will never free the Nobel peace prizewinner from house arrest.

Yesterday's announcement appears to be a response to Michael Aris, Daw Suu Kyi's husband, who recently said in Oxford she was in danger of starving herself to death in Rangoon. She had refused all offers of help from him.

At a press conference yesterday in Rangoon, Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Win, deputy director of military intelligence and a government information officer, maintained the junta's tough stand toward Daw Suu Kyi. Questioned about her release, he said: "We want peaceful development towards drafting a constitution and transfer of power to civilian government. We cannot allow recurrence of unrest which could jeopardise the process.

"We cannot release her ... because we are afraid that some unscrupulous elements might manipulate her and destabilise the situation. The next government will have to consider the release of Aung San Suu Kyi after a peaceful transfer of power."



Suu Kyi: in danger of starving to death

Somali accord at risk

FROM REUTER IN ADDIS ABABA

AN OUTLINE deal to declare a Somali ceasefire appeared at risk yesterday because of a dispute between warlords over who should attend a national reconciliation conference in March. Delegates to the week-long peace talks said the conference was deadlocked and an agreement in principle to silence the guns and disarm Somalia's many militias was threatened.

Most faction leaders accused General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, one of the warlords, of blocking the ceasefire pact by trying to win special status for three of the most powerful militias at the March 15 conference. But 11 factions loosely aligned with Ali Mahdi Muhammad, his bitter rival, want a broad range of participants to attend on an equal footing with key warlords.

Delegates said implementation of a ceasefire and a plan to strip the gunmen of their weapons were dependent on agreeing who should attend the conference.

Savimbi calls for talks with Luanda

FROM SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG

JONAS Savimbi, leader of the Angolan rebel movement, Unita, yesterday called for peace talks with the government as his forces staged counter-attacks in the cities of Huambo, Cuito and Luena after a week of losses.

Speaking by satellite telephone, Dr Savimbi told a Portuguese radio station that he was prepared to meet President dos Santos but would refuse an invitation to the capital, Luanda.

Dr Savimbi denied that he had fled his headquarters in Huambo, in Angola's central highlands, but diplomats in Luanda said yesterday that they thought Unita (the Union for the Total Independence of Angola) was no longer in control of the city.

On Saturday it was reported that Huambo had fallen to government forces and that Dr Savimbi had fled south towards his bush headquarters in Jamba, but he said in an interview recorded on Monday night and broadcast in full yesterday that he was speaking from his house in Huambo. "They tried with planes and they tried with tanks to take the house but they failed," he said. Although he offered an olive branch to the government, he also said that if forced to, he would continue the fighting. "If they want war, there won't be diamonds, there won't be oil. If they want war, they will pay the price," he said.

Yesterday it emerged that Fernando Pires, a local worker for the charity Care International in Huambo, had been murdered on Friday. Mr Pires was the second relief worker killed in the city since Dr Savimbi set up his base there after withdrawing from elections last October. Officials from the United Nations and Care have been trying to tour the country to assess how to deliver relief to the 350,000 people whom the UN estimates will need food following the collapse of Angola's peace accord.

Diplomats said yesterday that Unita soldiers were massing outside the southern port city of Lobito and its sister town, Benguela as well as outside Lubango. All three were taken over by government forces last week.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Arabs want UN to take action over deportees

Jerusalem: Lebanese soldiers, Arab governments and a human rights group yesterday intensified efforts to force Israel into repatriating more than 400 Palestinian deportees stranded for nearly a month in southern Lebanon (Richard Beeston writes).

A company of Lebanese troops was deployed near the village of Libbaya in an attempt by Beirut to halt the smuggling of food to the Palestinians at their mountain camp six miles away.

In Cairo, Arab League foreign ministers urged the UN Security Council to impose sanctions on Israel if it continues to refuse to comply with the UN resolution calling for the Palestinians to be taken back. The deportees welcomed the move but were disappointed that the conference did not suspend Arab participation in the Middle East peace talks.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation has said that the Palestinian delegation will not attend the next round of talks unless the deportees are returned. But yesterday's resolution did not go beyond describing Israel's refusal to permit repatriation as "a serious danger" to the peace process.

Exiles return

Miami: Thousands of Guatemalan Indian refugees hope to return to their homes a decade after being forced into exile in neighbouring Mexico by military repression in the civil war that destroyed many of their highland communities.

New army chief

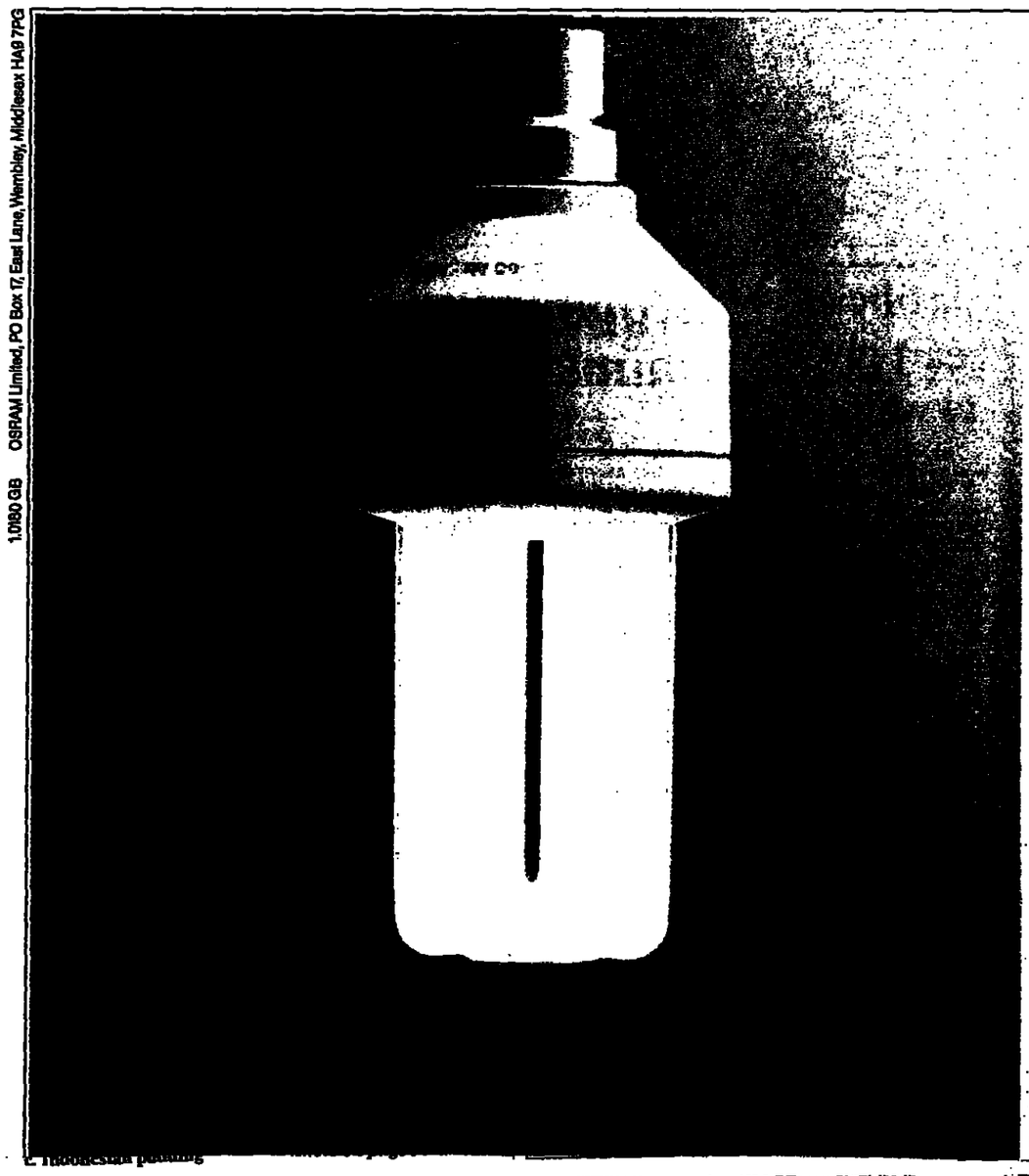
Islamabad: President Ishaq Khan of Pakistan has named Lieutenant General Abdul Waheed as army chief over the heads of five more senior officers. Formerly commanding the 12th Corps in Baluchistan, he has been promoted to general. *(Reuter)*

Mango jumbo

Peking: A state-owned Chinese company plans to barter 212 railway trucks of mango juice for a Russian-made 1128 passenger jet. In a similar recent deal, trainloads of Chinese consumer goods were exchanged for four Russian passenger planes. *(AP)*

'Witches' burnt

Nairobi: A mob of about 40 panga-wielding youths in western Kenya burnt to death eight elderly people accused of practising black magic in the district of Kisii, which has been plagued by a series of murders by self-styled witchhunters, the police said. *(AP)*



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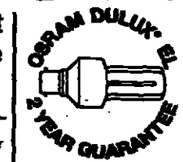
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Word-weary Bosnians put their faith in intervention



Karadzic Europe "is giving him too much"

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO AND ADAM LEBOR IN TRAVNIK

WEARY after nine months of negotiation, while their city was destroyed, their friends killed, and their lives forever changed by the horrors of siege and war, Sarajevans showed little interest yesterday in news of a breakthrough in the Geneva peace talks.

Most people were angry just to be asked what they thought, as if the question itself imparted a lack of understanding of their plight. Many were too busy collecting water or scavenging for wood to pay attention to such seemingly unimportant events.

Meanwhile, a senior official in the Bosnian government repeated warnings about reports of deaths from cold and hunger in eastern Bosnia. The official, Zlatko Lagumdzija, the deputy prime minister, said that reports from civil defence authorities in eastern Bosnia put the death toll from hunger and cold in the worst area, Zepa, at 291 for the past four days. He said 166 of those casualties were children under the age of seven but that the authorities had not been able to collect data from all villages in the area because of severe snow and the absence of petrol.

Mr Lagumdzija criticized the United Nations for misleading the Bosnian government and citizens into thinking relief aid would be brought to the area.

On the streets of Sarajevo, where basic provisions are scarce, nobody said they had any hope at all about a concrete solution coming from either the Geneva talks or any other negotiations. For them, the future holds only more war and suffering.

"What we need here is some kind of military intervention, and then some more talks," Slavenko Kritisich, 35, a Bosnian soldier and an ethnic Serb, said. "Someone must show the Serbian army that there is someone more powerful than they are." He is one of thousands of Serbs who have remained in Sarajevo to defend their city. "They have only one thought in the heads and they won't give that up: they just want a Greater Serbia," said Mehmet Kerken, 52, a bookseller, from behind the green table where he sells books, magazines, and Bosnian souvenirs. Mr Kerken's bookstand is just 15ft from where at least 22 people were killed and 90 wounded when two mortar rounds exploded next to a bread queue on May 27 — the incident is known as "the breadline massacre."

The woman who was working at the stand that Wednesday was seriously wounded. Wreathes of brown leaves with brightly coloured plastic flowers lean up against the shrapnel-scarred lamp post nearest to where the mortars exploded. Death notices for two victims of the attack, with a pair of green and red plastic Christmas wreathes, are taped to a small red dustbin. The edges of the holes made by shrapnel from the attack have rusted in the six months since the rounds fell.

"We could never have imagined they would be such butchers," Mr Kerken added. "When the first rounds fell we were so surprised. We could never have believed that such things could happen here."

On his bookstand Mr Kerken sells books of all sorts, including many by Serb authors and a few written in Cyrillic characters, the alphabet Serbs traditionally use. "A book is a book," he said, unwittingly commenting on the division between the two sides in the war. "It just depends on whether a book is good or bad."

The mortar attack is imprinted on the minds of many, not least the Bosnian Muslim and Croat soldiers fighting in the frontline town of Travnik. The diplomatic dance carried out in the plush hotels of Switzerland has always been something of an irrelevance to the soldiers in slit trenches struggling to hold back the Serb onslaught across their shattered country.

Bosnian soldiers put their faith in intervention, either by the West, or by the Muslim fighters' Islamic allies' threat to smash the UN arms embargo and supply them with the heavy weapons they say they need. "No political negotiations have so far affected the situation on the ground," Hamed Mesanovic, deputy commander of the Travnik region, said. "The fighting continues during and after the conference, and the conference will make no difference to that fact."

The frontline town of Travnik has been pounded daily by Serb artillery positions on the surrounding hills for months and fierce fighting continues in the outlying village of Turbe. A temporary reduction in shelling over the Christmas period has ended and the bombardment's resumption coincided with the latest round of the Geneva talks.

The people of Travnik feel that, even if the peace initiative is successful, and Serbs are persuaded to sign the Owen-Vance plan and stick to its provisions, it is unlikely that the Bosnian army and the HVO, the Croatian Bosnian militia, will just pack up their guns and go home. For a start many of them no longer have homes to go to.

Bosnian Muslims continue to be unwilling to accept the partition of their country: Bosnian Croats appear to accept it in some form. Croat and Muslim soldiers fight together on several fronts against their common enemy, but deep divisions remain between the two over the future shape of Bosnia. "The victims of this war do not want anyone to sign an agreement at any price," Mr Mesanovic said. "If that is the case, it would mean that their sacrifice was in vain."

"Europe is offering [Radovan] Karadzic [the Bosnian Serb leader] 50 per cent of Bosnian territory, way beyond what the Serbs could rightly claim as their own," Nadja Ridjic, a woman officer in the Bosnian army, said. "The Geneva plans to end the war are covering up murder and rape. Nobody can force me to accept a ceasefire and I cannot believe that Europe would try to force Bosnia to accept that."

Serb peace pledge fails to deflect Western resolve

■ The urgency for sending troop reinforcements to Bosnia will subside only when an accord is signed. Until then, it is prudent for Britain and the UN to continue with contingency planning

BY ROGER BOYES, EAST EUROPE CORRESPONDENT, MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT AND NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL STAFF

BOSNIAN Serbs agreed in Geneva to sign a United Nations accord aimed at bringing peace to the former Yugoslav republic. In London a cabinet committee met last night to review proposals to reinforce the 2,400 British troops in Bosnia.

Although the sudden change of mind by the Serb negotiators at the Geneva peace talks was announced before the cabinet ministers met at Downing Street, the reinforcement package was discussed at length.

Ministers recognised that the pledge of peace was dependent on far more than just a statement in Geneva. The UN Security Council is also preparing to discuss a draft resolution to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia. However, if the deal to divide Bosnia into 10 largely self-governing provinces is signed, there will not be the same urgency to send reinforcements to Bosnia. It could also delay the policing of the no-fly zone.

At the peace talks, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, at first seemed determined to give no ground in his demand that the Serbs be allowed their own mini-state within the frontiers of Bosnia.

In London, John Major warned the Serbs that they faced further diplomatic and military pressure if the Geneva peace talks broke down. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said that political and military action was needed to force the Bosnian Serbs back to the negotiating table. Their comments followed the announcement from Lord Owen, joint negotiator at the Geneva talks, that the conference had broken down. Within hours, however, Dr Karadzic returned to the negotiating table and declared that he was ready to accept a compromise, although the deal will have to be approved by the self-styled parliament of the so-called Bosnian Serb republic. Earlier in the Commons, Conservative MPs voiced concern that Britain risked becoming bogged down in a bloody civil war.

Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, indicated that last week's shelling in Tomislavgrad of a British logistics base had forced the defence ministry to reappraise the risks to the humanitarian mission. He told MPs: "I am very conscious that the situation in the last week or so has deteriorated in a significant way. We are giving urgent considerations as to what should be the proper response to ensure the fullest protection for our forces in Bosnia."

The military proposals studied by the cabinet committee last night included the dispatching of Jaguar bombers, Tornado air defence aircraft and Chinook heavy-lift helicopters. The recommended involvement of RAF jet fighters, in addition to Harriers on board the carrier HMS *Ark Royal*, would transform Britain's military presence in the region.

A squadron of 12 Jaguar ground-attack aircraft would provide close support for the troops engaged in escorting United Nations food convoys. They would act as "artillery in the air" to target Serb guns if the British troops came under fire. The Tornado F3s would be used to patrol the skies over Bosnia if the UN Security Council approves the resolution to enforce the no-fly zone. The Harriers on *Ark Royal*, which is expected to set sail from Portsmouth this week, would also be used to enforce the air-exclusion zone.

The Jaguars and Tornados would be sent to a base on the east coast of Italy, from where they could be deployed over Bosnia when required.

The twin-rotor RAF Chinooks, which can carry more than 50 troops, would provide a vital lift capability to move troops and equipment. Although the political mission, providing humanitarian aid, would remain the same, the reinforcements would add a dramatic new dimension to the British deployment.

Dr David Clark, the shadow defence secretary, warned that a build-up of British troops could lead to an "inexorable drift into a bloody conflict" without any military or political objectives.

Mr Rifkind sought to reassure his backbenchers by insisting that British forces in Bosnia would not be drawn into the fighting.

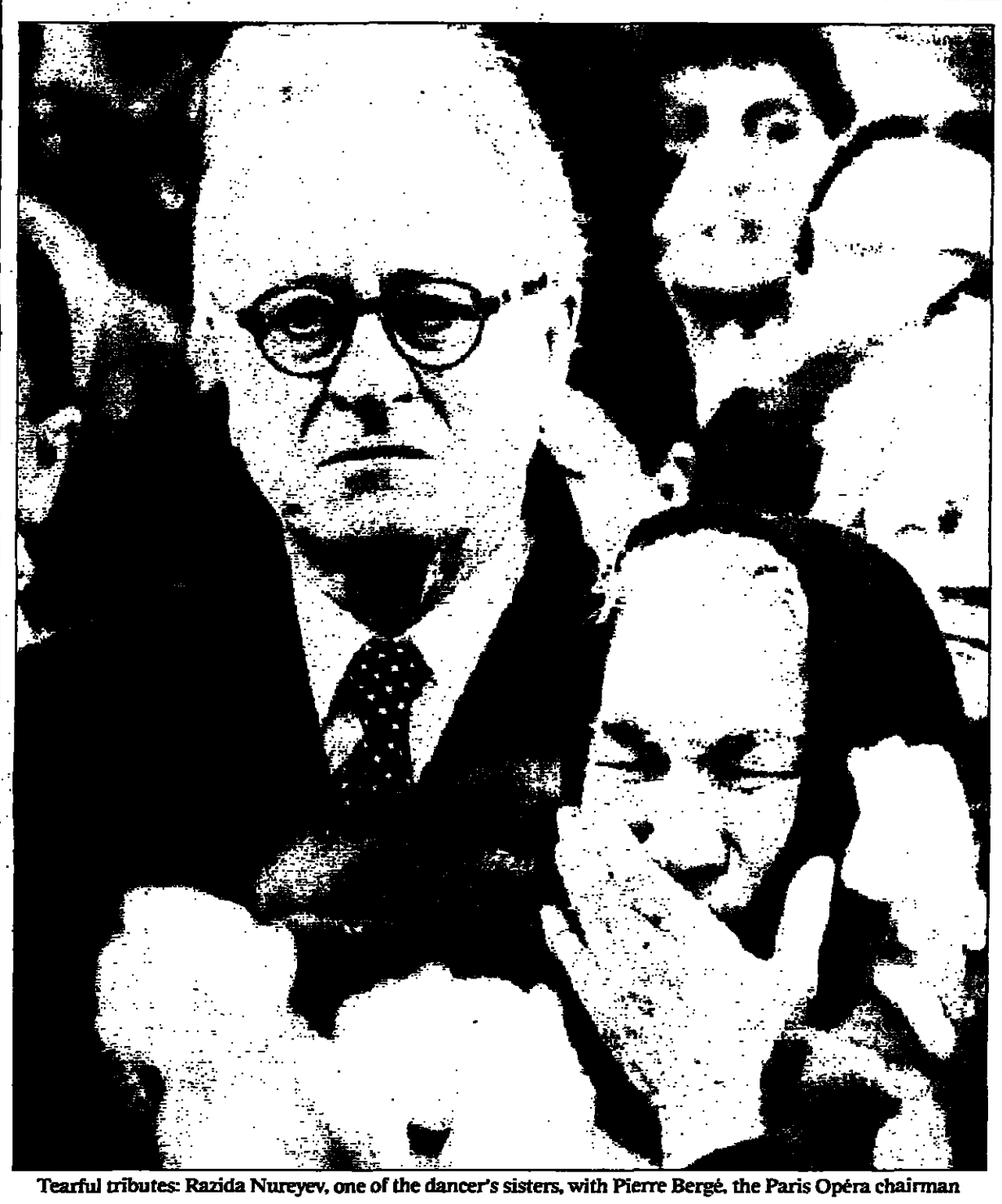
Nor was the government considering widening the role of its ground forces. "It is not our belief that it would be appropriate for ground forces to be used in a combat role," he said.

The reinforcement package includes up to 200 Royal Artillery gunners with 105mm light guns, and about 100 specialists from 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery.

■ **Rome:** Italy has asked the United States to supply Rome with Patriot missiles to guard against ballistic attack from Serbia, and Washington has responded positively but insists the Italian government pay in advance for the arms, political sources said yesterday (John Phillips writes).

Military experts said Italy is concerned by threats made by the chief of staff of the rump Yugoslavia, General Zivota Panic, to retaliate in the event of what Belgrade calls "Western intervention against Yugoslavia". Italian military planners fear that their peninsula is within the range of Serbian Scud missiles which might be fired at US bases, from which coalition intervention attacks could be launched.

Deal signed, page 1



Tearful tributes: Razida Nureyev, one of the dancer's sisters, with Pierre Bergé, the Paris Opéra chairman

Nureyev draws final adoring crowd

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN PARIS

LEANING over the balcony, 100 ft above the entrance to the Opéra Garnier, were seven men in dusty, blue overalls. Beneath them were four more levels of balconies, each packed with mourners. The closer to the bottom, the stricter the dress code.

Almost as one, those who could see down drew a sharp breath. The coffin, shouldered by six dancers clad in black, came into their bird's-eye view. Apart from the whirr-click of a hundred cameras there was complete silence.

This was the last crowd that Rudolf Nureyev drew in Paris, the scene of his first performance in the West in 1961, and of his last production, in October 1992. Outside gathered the hundreds of his admirers who had not managed to get tickets, kept off the steps by gendarmes.

The flowers piled up at the door — from the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Austrian culture ministry, the Tokyo Ballet, President Mitterrand, Yves Saint Laurent, Pierre Bergé, director of the Paris Opéra, sent red roses with the words "Merci Rudolf." Another message, "Nunu, dance in peace," was sent anonymously.

The civil ceremony lasted about an hour: readings from Pushkin, Byron, Goethe, Michelangelo and Rimbaud; a tribute from the French culture minister, Jack Lang, and music by Bach and Tchaikovsky.

M Lang said: "You have chosen to be buried in French soil, let it be gentle and hospitable to you." Nureyev had achieved legendary status, M Lang said, not just because of his talent, but also through hard work. "Like a phoenix, he would have exhausted himself by the end of each day, but was reborn every morning... My dear Rudolf, we love you." The ballet stars who attended included Nina Vyrubova, his first partner after his defection in 1961, Ghislaine Thesmar and Yvette Chauviré. Those representing the world's ballet companies included Sir John Tooley of Covent Garden and John Taras of the New York Ballet. The civil ceremony ended with Bach's unfinished Fugue No. 13, the last, abrupt note underscoring Nureyev's early death.

The pallbearers took the body back out of the door of the Opera, and the crowd of perhaps 1,000 fell into line behind and watched as the coffin was taken to the cemetery next to the Russian Orthodox church at Sainte-Geneviève-des-Bois, outside Paris.

Here, a smaller number of mourners laid him to rest near the black marble tomb of the choreographer Serge Lifar. Among them were André Larquié, the director-general of Radio France Internationale, and Michel Canesi. Nureyev's former doctor. Both men head the Nureyev Foundation, an organisation established by the dancer as far back as 1975 but designed to come into operation only after his death. Nureyev had created a similar organisation in America.

The purposes of the foundation, M Larquié said this week, are to promote Rudolf Nureyev's style of dancing and choreography, and medical and scientific research. M Larquié did not elaborate except to say that money would be used "to help dancers in need". The mourners included Nureyev's two sisters, Rosa François, who lives in Monte Carlo, and Razida, who had travelled from southern Russia.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Honecker expected to gain freedom

Berlin: The trial of Erich Honecker, the former East German leader, collapsed yesterday. A Berlin regional court ordered him to be freed because he is dying of cancer of the liver.

Herr Honecker, 80, on trial for ordering the shooting of would-be escapers at the Berlin Wall, remained in prison last night because he still has to appear in another court today on a separate charge of abusing power. That court, however, is almost certain to follow suit and halt the proceedings.

Most Germans expect him to fly to Chile, to join his wife and daughter who abandoned him in Berlin, later this week. Journalists have reportedly booked up all seats on flights to Chile for the next five days.

Sweden to cut public spending

Oslo: Anne Wibble, the Swedish finance minister, has announced perhaps the country's most depressing peacetime budget and unwittingly handed opponents enough ammunition to bring down the Conservative-led coalition government of Carl Bildt.

She cut social benefits and government services by 20 billion kronor (£2 billion), and said the country faced unprecedentedly high unemployment, a budget deficit of 200 billion kronor, and a national debt approaching 800 billion kronor. She promised prosperity in the years 1995 to 1998.

Immunity plea

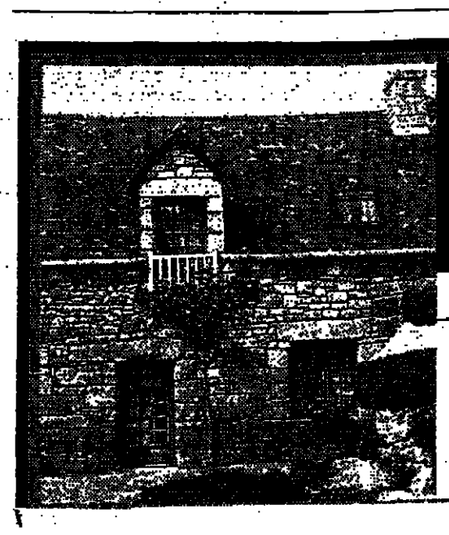
Rome: Magistrates in Milan have asked the government to lift the parliamentary immunity enjoyed by Bettino Craxi, the Socialist party leader and former prime minister, so that he can stand trial on a series of corruption charges, judicial sources said.

Spy dies

Moscow: Helen Kroger, a Russian spy who, with her husband, stole defence secrets from the United States and Britain in the 1950s, has died, Russian intelligence officials have said. Kroger, 79, whose real name was Leontina Cohen, was buried in Moscow last month. *(Reuter)*

Papal pressure

Rome: The Pope has backed church attempts to seek an 11th-hour parliamentary ban on abortions in Poland, his homeland. He raised the issue with Polish bishops at the Vatican a week after the Warsaw parliament refused to outlaw abortions. *(AP)*



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A Chanel sample sale attracts the fashion in-crowd. **Tina Gaudoin** joins the crush

A nice cut on Coco

The Chanel public relations director is having what Manhattanites describe as a bad hair day. But, somewhat perversely, she is quite enjoying herself. Since she arrived at her desk, the switchboard has been jammed with calls from obsequious fashion and beauty editors, all begging the same favour. When it comes to the Chanel sample sale, the size 5 pump is very definitely on the other foot.

By the time I place my call the PR has hit her stride. "We try to keep it senior, small and selective. The more people who come, the less there is to go round." Pause, nervous laughter. "I mean, we don't really know your associate beauty editor do we? Does she write? Well, as a personal favour, just this once."

There is no greater indication that you are part of New York's fashion and beauty in-crowd than an invitation to Chanel's seasonal sample sale. And there is possibly no greater humiliation than having to call and solicit an invitation. Ninety-nine per cent of the time the answer will be a categoric and unequivocal "No".

Once "blooded", Darwinism rules. Elitism and survival of the fittest make perfect sense when a two-piece bouclé suit is at stake. By any standards, the clothes go for bargain basement prices. You do not have to be of sylph-like model proportions. Sizes 8 to 16 are available. Chanel shoes at $50 (normal price $380) jackets at $250 (normal price $2,000) bags at $300 (normal price anything from $1,000). Even this season's prêt-à-porter lines are half-price. And then there's the cashmere and the jewellery — nothing more than $100 — manna from heaven to a crowd whose very existence is dependent on the ability to look like a million dollars while earning considerably less.

Finding out the sale date requires sleuthing of Holmesian proportions. Chanel likes to keep editors on a long, low simmer. Plans are made or broken around sale dates. Overheard in one New York fashion department: "Honey, I've changed my flights. Jamaica can wait, the sale can't." The shrewdest mag hacks lunch the Chanel PR and ask straight-out. In New York, bare-faced tenacity is always rewarded.

For the rest, the information is disseminated in the form of a terse phone message: "December 18, Park Lane Hotel, 9 to 12; personal cheques and ID please." But being invited only gets you past first base. Strategising is the key to cut-price Chanel success. And we're talking Stormin' Norman tactics here. These are hardened couture-show connivers, pushers and shovers.

Forming an alliance is vital — provided your team-mates are not your size (the less competition, the better). Three is the magic number — one to queue for the sale, one to queue for the cloakroom and one to run out to the deli for coffee. Early arrival of the entire group is imperative. Synchronisation of watches the night before is recommended. One PR believes it is the only time you'll see the cream of American beauty and fashion editors before noon. Even ritualistic air kissing is forsaken. "Don't kiss me, sweetheart, just take my coat."

Dressing for the sale demands careful consideration. "I spent hours finding the right combination — something that looks good, but can be slipped off at a moment's notice," wails Karen Dawson, my associate, as we stand in the queue.

Changing facilities are limited and crowded. Most editors whip off their clothes where they stand for fear of losing a bargain.

"It's incredible — all of these girls from *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vogue*, *Mirabella* and *Elle* whom you see sitting so primly in the front rows at the fashion shows are suddenly stripping down on the spot," says Roberto Guerra, the film-maker, and one of the few men privileged to gain entry because of his friendship with Karl Lagerfeld.

As 9am draws nearer, the crowd surges forward — a coven of *Vogue* editors crouched on the floor reading *The New York Times* is in danger of being trampled underfoot. I brief Karen: "Jackets and skirts straight ahead, bags to the right, shoes along the back wall." Divide and conquer. We agree to split up and rendezvous at the clip-on earrings in an hour.

> 'Darling, I'm just buying, buying, buying for my sisters'

A Chanel official clambers onto a chair. An expectant hush falls. "Only two pocket books [Chanel handbags] and one string of pearls per person. [Subdued moans of disappointment.] If you are not on the invitation list, you will not. I repeat, not be admitted."

Numbers thin. Tearful assistants and deputy editors slope off through the fire door. A row erupts between two publishers over who was first in the queue. The precariously balanced Chanel official waves both arms, gives a rousing cheerleader "Yay! Yay! Yay!" and teeters off her chair. The doors open. We're off.

Scenes from the smoking battlefield: "Excuse me *but* I already have one leg in these trousers" (me to an *Elle* assistant intent on taking possession of my size 8 evening pants). "Darling, I'm just buying, buying, buying for my sisters," says Kevyn Aucion, a makeup artist as he plunges the upper half of his 6ft frame into a box of cashmere skirts. "It's such a bargain." Thus *Mirabella's* Dorothy Scheffer in defence of her chest-revealing black flapper dress. "Hmm, it kinda makes you look large-hipped. Maybe I'll try it when you're done" — shrewd fashion assistant to her editor.

It's not the taking part, it's the spoils that count. And debriefings are not taken lightly. Mega-bargains can seriously elevate your status. Karen's veered towards demi-goddess after she revealed her prize: "Worn once, only in the shows" black lace-up *Chanel platforms* for $75. But glory's flush soon faded. Fitting her shoes for a lap of honour around the fashion department, Karen discovered the devastating truth ... Both shoes were intended for left feet.

● *The author is the health and beauty editor of American* Harper's Bazaar.

RICHARD YOUNG



Manhattan-smart: would-be fashion stars aspire to the style of editors such as Anna Wintour of American Vogue and ...

REX/LYNN GOLDSMITH



... Elizabeth Tilberis of Harper's Bazaar. And at the Chanel sample sales in New York, the wannabes seize their chance

Princess not for labelling



SARAH MOWER

Anyone who didn't know about the ferocious power politics of Italian fashion wouldn't have given much thought to the Princess of Wales's last minute cancellation of a private "opera and shopping" trip to Milan last week. According to the tabloids, a "furious" princess called off the trip "because the paparazzi had found out". She was wise, but it was a narrow escape.

For the sharp-eyed, the princess's little slip gave a rare glimpse of the finely-turned Achilles heel that could end up ruining her good-girl image, on home ground at least. Not to put too fine a point on it, for a woman of the princess's standing, shopping in ugly, smog-bound Milan in January can only mean one thing — a serious round of appointments at the palazzos of the top designers for the purpose of kitting her out, top to toe, in a new spring wardrobe. At a certain discount, of course.

Make no mistake about it, the Italians have designs on the Princess of Wales in more ways than one. She must be careful. In the violent publicity war that rages between the biggest designers, the most nakedly venal manoeuvre of recent times has been the capture of celebrities as house trophies. Armani boasts Tina Turner, Jodie Foster, Michelle Pfeiffer, Claudia Cardinale and a slew of male Hollywood stars. Gianni Versace has Elton John, Jane Fonda, the supermodels. Valentino has Elizabeth Taylor, Sophia Loren, Jackie Onassis. The Princess of Wales is the last remaining "unlabelled" star — and tantalisingly for the designers, the biggest potential trophy ever.

What the princess has to fear most in this is the outcome of that other publicity war between palaces — on home turf. I wonder exactly how the news of her trip leaked out. Was it some presumptuous minion in a Milan press office, ignorant of the secrecy imperative? Or was it someone nearer home — aware of the damage from the news that a British royal might be surreptitiously spending money on quantities of expensive, foreign clothes?

With or without conspiracy theories, the Princess of Wales knows that she must not become a Trophy Princess. That would be to down-grade herself to the level of a mere Grimaldi — Princess Caroline is a Chanel Trophy — or to that of Princess Michael of Kent, a longstanding Gianfranco Ferré Trophy, or to that of Helen Windsor (as was) and her mother, who became Armani Trophies in a pre-nuptial spread in *Tatler*.

After the early years of all-over-the-place dressing, the princess has heroically restrained herself, ordering that enquiries about the provenance of her wardrobe should be stonily rebuffed. Instead, she has gone for the elegant semi-anonymity of clothes by the almost neurotically discreet Catherine Walker.

So far, so mature, so media-savvy. Yet the side of the princess that says it would not do to be photographed in, say, Versace's new floral printed chiffon bellbottoms and satin platform shoes, is countered by another voice within — the voice of the young rebel that sobs, why not, why can't I, why shouldn't I? A measure of the pathos of that little voice is the fact that, on the night that Versace opened his Bond Street emporium — the fashion bash of last year — the princess was absent. Next morning, however, it was she who was the very first customer who whizzed round as soon as the doors were open to see what she'd missed. She was shown around the echoing place alone and unseen.

In one way, it is sad, because why shouldn't the girl have a little designer fun like every other international heiress? But of course, she's British. Again, the Princess of Wales must face the hard fact that she will come up against increasingly frequently: that even as she has taken the sideways step to live more like her peers, so she must take care to remain for ever above them.

For a long time, the princess has managed to keep what she buys to wear in private (Chanel, Moschino, Valentino, Versace) separate from what she's *seen* to buy and wear on official duty. The difference between the two levels of consumption has not been publicly analysed. Last week, maybe emboldened by her new independence, she took a risk and nearly blew her cover. Perhaps she is now contemplating the bitter truth that even semi-detached princesses cannot have their cake and eat it.

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Sale prices? If you insist, sir

Fine but discreet bargains are to be had at London's old bespoke tailors

It comes as something of a shock to stroll down Savile Row and see, emblazoned in the windows of time-honoured bespoke tailors, "Sale" stickers in eye-impaling fluorescent orange and green. One such is Anthony J. Hewitt (where a heavy tweed motoring coat favoured by the likes of the Prince of Wales and Toad of Toad Hall will set you back over £1,000).

Such stalwarts as Henry Poole, Anderson & Sheppard and Kilgour, and French & Stanbury steer well clear of such Flash Harry behaviour, although discreet negotiations over price are not unknown; even the doyen of Savile Row — Huntsman — offered, for one week only during November, 25 per cent off all their ready-to-wear collection (the very *existence* of a ready-to-wear collection coming as a surprise to many). Admittedly such offers serve only to bring prices down from the stratospheric to the merely tear-Jermyn Street during the whole of the month of January the very finest menswear can be bought for startlingly low prices, if you know what you want and where to find it; many of these charmingly old-fashioned establishments remaining decidedly embarrassed about the business of holding a sale at all.

The true bargains are to be had among proper, English, bench-made shirts, dressing gowns, ties, nightwear, scarves and the rest of it, all exclusive to Jermyn Street. And herein lies the trick: Harvie & Hudson, for instance, sell superb shirts and some of the best woven and knitted silk ties, but their pyjamas are bought in, and similar to many in department stores.

Hawes & Curtis, on the other hand, stock the real drawstring of the same fabric) at just £55 a pair, while Hilditch & Key make the very best cotton dressing gowns in the street — the revers are cut to fall just so — yet they are currently on offer at £79.95 (about half the usual price); you will find cotton dressing gowns cheaper, but they have all the snap of a handkerchief. One avoids completely the few foreign infiltrators (shops such as Charles, which is currently offering a perfectly revolting shirt by "V2 by Versace" — his more "affordable" range — at a ridiculous £235), whereas across the road at Hawes & Curtis are the best shirts on offer in the street — heavy ringtone self-pattern in blue, pink or white at just £42 each.

Other excellent shirts are plentiful at around £100 for three, and the street is ankle deep in gorgeous silk ties at between £12 and £25 each — the wittiest, Hermès lookalikes being at Hilditch & Key: spots, stripes and houndstooth checks abound for the traditionalist — three for £45.

Despite the reasonably prominent announcements of sales in most of the windows and bumper business this month, there is a collective feeling in Jermyn Street that trade would be even better if passers august frontages. The shops want it known just how cheap their sale merchandise is without having to mention it.

One shop that at first seems above all this is Turnbull & Asser; those old enough to remember the glorious days of the annual T & A one-day sale (held in the ballroom of Quaglino's to the background of a string quartet, coffee and copies of *The Times* being distributed gratis to members of the queue) have become dismayed by the accepted diktat that these days, Turnbull *never* holds a sale. Not true — but you have to search for it; this reticence to the point of flat denial is all the more curious when you consider that T & A is owned by the Al Fayeds, who treat the opening of Harrods sale as if it were a coronation.

gown and tie stock of Hawes & Curtis (also an Al Fayed subsidiary) you will find some Turnbull merchandise, which is not officially there at all. Similarly, if you go to Turnbull's little-known and rather splendid jackets and suits shop (in Bury Street) and enquire politely, you will be told that yes, there *are* clothes available at sale prices — and superbly cut and finished clothes they are.

Staff seem as bemused as anyone as to precisely why this information should be privy only to the odd passing clairvoyant, while an official spokesperson continues to reiterate, rather in the manner of a Dalek, that Turnbull & Asser never *ever* has a sale: the truth is that the shop is merely the most discreet among a string of first-rate establishments whose annual winter conspiracy might now become not quite so closely guarded a secret.

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هكذا من الأصل

Jeremy Laurance reports on how a recent discovery may help research into Alzheimer's disease worldwide

MARTIN BEDDALL



Dr Gareth Roberts, neuroanatomist at St Mary's medical school: "The conversation just stopped. We checked his finding and found it was correct. We knew immediately what it meant."

Key to dementia's door

A chance remark by a medical student working in a cramped laboratory in west London last summer has triggered a discovery that could hold the key to the cause of Alzheimer's disease.

British scientists announced this week that the degenerative disease may result from the brain's attempts to stave off the natural ageing process. The discovery raises new hopes that a cure for the condition, which slowly strips sufferers of their dignity and personality, may now be within sight.

In Britain, up to one in five couples is likely to have an elderly parent suffering from dementia due to Alzheimer's. It is the commonest brain disorder and causes the progressive loss of memory and reason. The brain dies before the body and death, when it comes, is often a merciful release.

The discovery, made by scientists working at St Mary's medical school in London, provides a key piece of the jigsaw of how the disease develops. "It was like finding the critical keystone," says Dr Gareth Roberts, the leader of the St Mary's team.

Last summer, Michael Nash, a student at St Mary's, was employed by Dr Roberts' team to examine specimens from normal brains for the presence of a protein called beta amyloid precursor as part of a research project on the effects of head injury. During a coffee break he casually mentioned that there was a lot of it in the cells of the medial temporal lobes, a small part of the brain.

The remark had an electrifying effect. "The conversation just stopped," Dr Roberts says. "We checked his finding and found it was correct. We knew immediately what it meant.

"One of the big mysteries of Alzheimer's was why it starts in the temporal lobes. Now we had an answer — because that is the part with the highest levels of protein." Dr Roberts says. The team spent the next month comparing specimens from the brains of 12 dead patients, which confirmed that those with Alzheimer's disease had even higher levels of the protein in the medial temporal lobes than normal.

The team rushed out publication of their results in the specialist journal *Neuroreport* this week to be sure of beating rival research groups around the world. The reason for their excitement was that the observation pulls together several different research strands pursued over the last decade. Although a small step in itself, it marks a significant leap in understanding of the disease.

The trail began in 1984 when US scientists first identified the amyloid protein in the damaged parts of the brains of Alzheimer's sufferers. The disease is marked by the formation in the brain of plaques — globs of dead and dying nerve terminals — and tangles, dead nerve cells littered with shrivelled filaments. The US researchers found that amyloid was a key constituent of the plaques.

Two years ago, a second team at St Mary's investigating a family from Nottingham, some of whom suffered from an inherited form of the disease at an early age, identified a genetic mutation. The gene affected, on chromosome 21, controlled the production of amyloid.

The amyloid protein is produced naturally in the brain and helps the process of cell regrowth. As humans age, their neurons begin to die off but the surviving ones grow new branches to fill the gaps — a process known as resprouting. "They try to compensate for the decline in their numbers by maintaining their points of contact," Dr Roberts says.

Amyloid is also vital to the brain's repair process after a head injury. Victims of head injury often recover but develop Alzheimer's disease soon after. Work by Dr Roberts's team a year ago showed that they too produced higher levels of amyloid.

The latest finding links all these observations together. The risk of Alzheimer's is higher in the elderly and in victims of head injury because the brain produces extra amyloid protein to stimulate resprouting of the neurons to compensate for their decline. The amounts of amyloid produced only reach significant levels over the age of 60 but excess production damages the brain by forming plaques and tangles.

"The brain tries to protect itself from ageing or injury with a second burst of growth, but it doesn't work for everybody," Dr Roberts says. "We believe some people prove vulnerable to the extra amounts of protein produced. It is like watering a plant. If you over-water it, the plant dies."

Alzheimer's always starts in the medial temporal lobes of the brain because that is the part with the highest levels of amyloid protein. It is also the part most sensitive to injury — the "Achilles cortex" of the brain, according to Dr Roberts. Because it is the part that controls memory, the first outward sign of Alzheimer's is increasing forgetfulness.

Dr Roberts said that controlling over-production of the protein in the brain would become a "major therapeutic target" for the drug companies and other research organisations which are investing millions in the search for a cure for Alzheimer's, if his finding was confirmed by other studies. "Our research takes us one step nearer being able to delay the onset of this form of dementia."

ALZHEIMER'S: ONE OF THE WESTERN WORLD'S BIGGEST KILLERS

- Alzheimer's disease was first described almost a century ago by the neurologist Louis Alzheimer but has only become a significant problem in the past few decades as the population has aged. Estimates of the number affected in Britain vary from 350,000 to 500,000 but the number is certain to rise sharply over the next 30 years. According to the Alzheimer's Disease Society, one person in 50 aged 65-70 is affected, one in 25 aged 70-80 and one in five aged 80 and over.
- Some doctors warn that Alzheimer's is overdiagnosed, presenting "a handy dustbin into which people may be dumped". Other, treatable, causes of memory loss in the elderly, such as depression, may thus be missed.
- The disease is estimated to be the fourth biggest killer in the Western world, after cancer, heart attacks and strokes. In its final stages it leads to complete physical and mental deterioration, sufferers become bedridden and die of pneumonia or similar infections.
- There is no simple test for Alzheimer's, but drug companies are racing to develop one. Brain scans can pick up the disease in its early stages, but are impractical for general use.
- Drug companies are also trying to develop treatments — a fortune awaits the first to succeed — but drugs which looked promising have subsequently proved disappointing. One, called Tacrine, had a dramatic effect enabling sufferers who had previously been unable to wash or dress themselves to go out for a round of golf. But the benefits did not last and within months most deteriorated again.
- A substance called interleukin 1 receptor-antagonist, which is on clinical trial in the United States, shows the greatest promise, according to Dr Gareth Roberts of the St Mary's medical school, London. "It has been demonstrated that interleukin 1 promotes the production of the amyloid protein implicated in Alzheimer's and research published in the US last November shows that the receptor-antagonist inhibits it," Dr Roberts says. His team needs to test whether it works, "but it is difficult to convince the drug companies who are not keen to pursue research they have not originated themselves".

Not safe, even behind bars

Lax security in prisons could place women workers in serious danger

The disclosure that a woman prison worker was raped by an inmate in a top security prison just before Christmas is certain to lead to demands for an enquiry into whether stricter measures are needed to protect staff from assault.

"This was a very serious crime indeed, and it took place in a prison which is where we put people to stop them committing crimes," John Bartell, the national chairman of the Prison Officers' Association, said yesterday.

The assault took place in the chapel of Long Lartin prison, near Evesham, Hereford and Worcester, which houses a large number of Category A prisoners, those convicted of violent crimes and considered to be a danger to the public. The woman has declined to press charges, and her alleged assailant, a convicted rapist, is understood to have been moved to another prison.

Some people may find it hard to accept that women, particularly those with no training as prison officers, should be working with violent male criminals, let alone without supervision. But there is a widespread belief within the service that women should perform the same tasks as men, that contact between the sexes is beneficial to prisoners, and that "one-to-one" contacts between staff and prisoners should be encouraged.

The association is nonetheless appalled at the escalating violence against prison staff. The 378 assaults in the six months up to May last year were 57 per cent more than in the same period two years earlier.

The danger is one to which women and men are equally exposed. "There are now women officers in almost every prison in the country," Mr Bartell says. "We have a strict equal employment policy, which means that women receive exactly the same training as men and are expected to perform all the same duties."

Civilian staff and visitors, who include lawyers, teachers, librarians, psychologists, clergy and kitchen and cleaning workers, pose a different problem. For the most part they receive no special training in personal safety and, although their numbers are proportionately fewer in top security establishments, such as Long Lartin, than in more relaxed "open" prisons, where they may come close to outnumbering uniformed staff, the dangers they face are correspondingly greater.

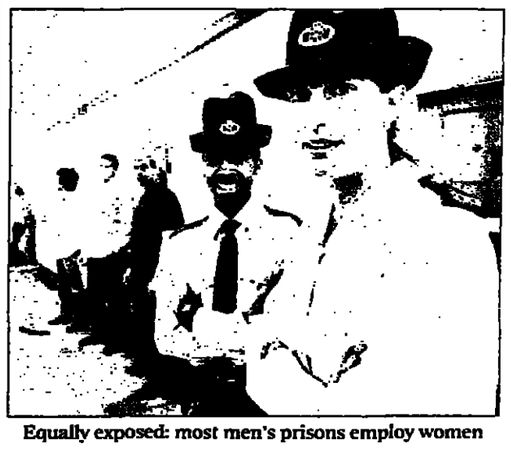
Even in top security prisons there is a growing tendency to leave prisoners alone with non-uniformed staff, Mr Bartell says. That is the result partly of pressures to involve more outside experts in contact with prisoners, but also to compensate for general understaffing.

It used to be standard practice always to have at least two members of the staff present at all times, he says. "My belief is that female prison staff and visitors do run a higher degree of risk.

"What worries me is that there has clearly been an attempt at a cover-up, rather than a determination to bring the incident into the open and to dicuss how to prevent a recurrence. I realise a chapel presents particular problems, because it demands an element of privacy, but in my day, when we wanted to start a search, we began with the chapel, because that was where prisoners made their home-brews."

The Home Office said yesterday that it had carried out a full investigation and would be considering the results. Long Lartin had a very high ratio of staff to prisoners, almost one to one, and newcomers were given a "fairly strong" induction.

JOHN YOUNG

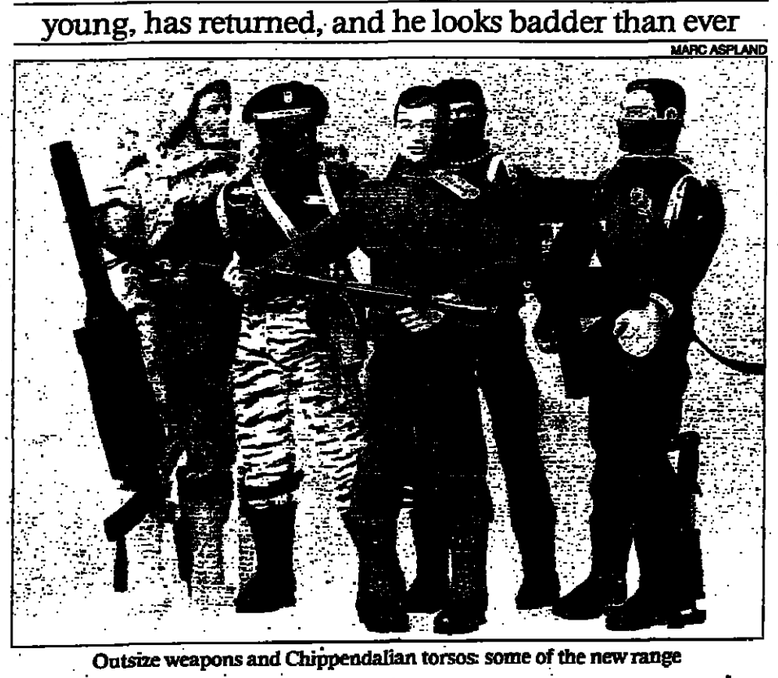


Equally exposed: most men's prisons employ women

The boy-toy stalks back

A generation can again indulge itself with fantasy terrorism. Action Man, the tough guy who hooked the young, has returned, and he looks badder than ever

MARC ASPLAND



Outsize weapons and Chippendalian torsos: some of the new range

However many times I hurled him out of the window, he never complained. I tried, and failed, to pull out his hair, that infuriating blond crewcut apparently welded to his manly skull. I shot him repeatedly with my air rifle and still he would come back for more, demanding "Take me to your leader".

He never quite smiled, but he never quite frowned, either. He never did tell me how he got that nasty scar on his right cheek.

The toy came from America in 1966 and at the peak of his popularity it is estimated there were 1.3 Action Man toys for every boy in Britain. By 1984, more than 350 different costumes had been created and a whole world of trademarked Action Man material — from parachutes to pyjamas and ice axes to knitting patterns — was flooding toyshops and bedrooms across Britain. And then he fizzled. Toys were getting littler and fiddlier, technology was all, and Action Man couldn't move into the future fast enough. Despite going through every possible incarnation, and winning countless awards, there seemed nowhere for him to go.

Now he's back. The voice, the eagle eyes and the occasional beard have gone, but the scar remains — a little shorter and pinker than I remember — and so does that extraordinary "realistic" hair. This was apparently invented by chief designer Bill Pugh after watching *Tomorrow's World* on television and seeing a new British technique for spraying fibres onto walls for acoustic purposes.

The torso is far more Chippendalian than before, and his legs, shapely as a dancer's, are now moulded of single pieces of plastic, with ingenious bendy metal bits inside that allow articulation, although not to the same "mangled corpse" extent of the old Action Man. This, so far as I can tell, makes him far harder to dress and undress. Half-nelsons are well nigh impossible, and I have not yet been able to pull off the head in the old way. (Parents with young children will no doubt be relieved about this.)

An original aim for Action Man was that he should reflect the social and historic happenings of the day: the introduction of an astronaut and space capsule to the range in 1969 was a typical example.

A year earlier, the Olympic set had appeared, with accessories including a discus, shot, javelin, Union Jack shorts (ho, ho) and medal (ho, ho, ho). Over the years his military uniforms had included British, American, Australian, Canadian, French, German and Russian regiments.

He'd been a Grenadier Guard, a Royal Hussar, a 17th/21st Lancer and an Argyll & Sutherland Highlander. He'd been a policeman, a fireman, a frogman, an arctic explorer, a footballer, a cricketer, a cowboy, an Indian, a spaceman, an alien and a robot.

Now, we have "Duke" (blond hair, blue eyes and US Army uniform), "Stalker" (black, mustachioed and mean-looking) and "Snake Eyes" (a masked martial arts whiz apparently dressed for nuclear waste disposal) arrayed on the side of good against the rather disturbing figure of "Cobra Commander". Disturbing, because the Commander comes with a Darth Vaderish hood under which the figure is still masked. And the second mask does not come off. I can see some penknives being brought into action here, as young do-gooders struggle to unmask the baddie.

Each member of the four-strong "advance party" from Hasbro (UK) Ltd is equipped with a name, rank and number to go with its impressively stitched uniform, nostalgic plastic boots and outsize weapons. (These bleep and flash rather disappointingly at the touch of a button, thoroughly eclipsed by the heavy tympanic rattle of the old Action Man machine gun nest.)

But the general theme seems to be a kind of fantasy terrorism. Yet there is something strangely reassuring about the proportions of all the figures as they stare out with their plastic gazes from their plastic skulls. Perhaps it is mere nostalgia on my part, in the same way that a family resemblance in a young child may offer consolation for the loss of an older relative.

I miss my old Action Man, and the way he could soak up all my vicious childhood aggressions. I miss the way he barked out meaningless commands. I regret the fact that, if I still had him, I could flog him for no mean sum to one of the growing band of hard-bitten Action Maniacs avidly collecting the early dolls.

Yet the Man is back. He looks a bit tougher, a bit shinier, and a little bit less human. But such is the way with modern civilisation.

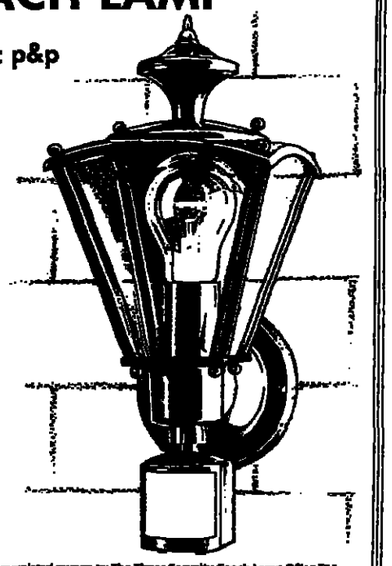
MICHAEL WRIGHT

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Alan Coren



■ With all those detectives on the box, wouldn't a hen-pecked serial killer make a change?

Oh look, it is the old firm back at the old stand! What better time could there be for a firm stand? Today, therefore, I shall address the crime wave. And moreover (as the old firm used to say), I shall do something about it.

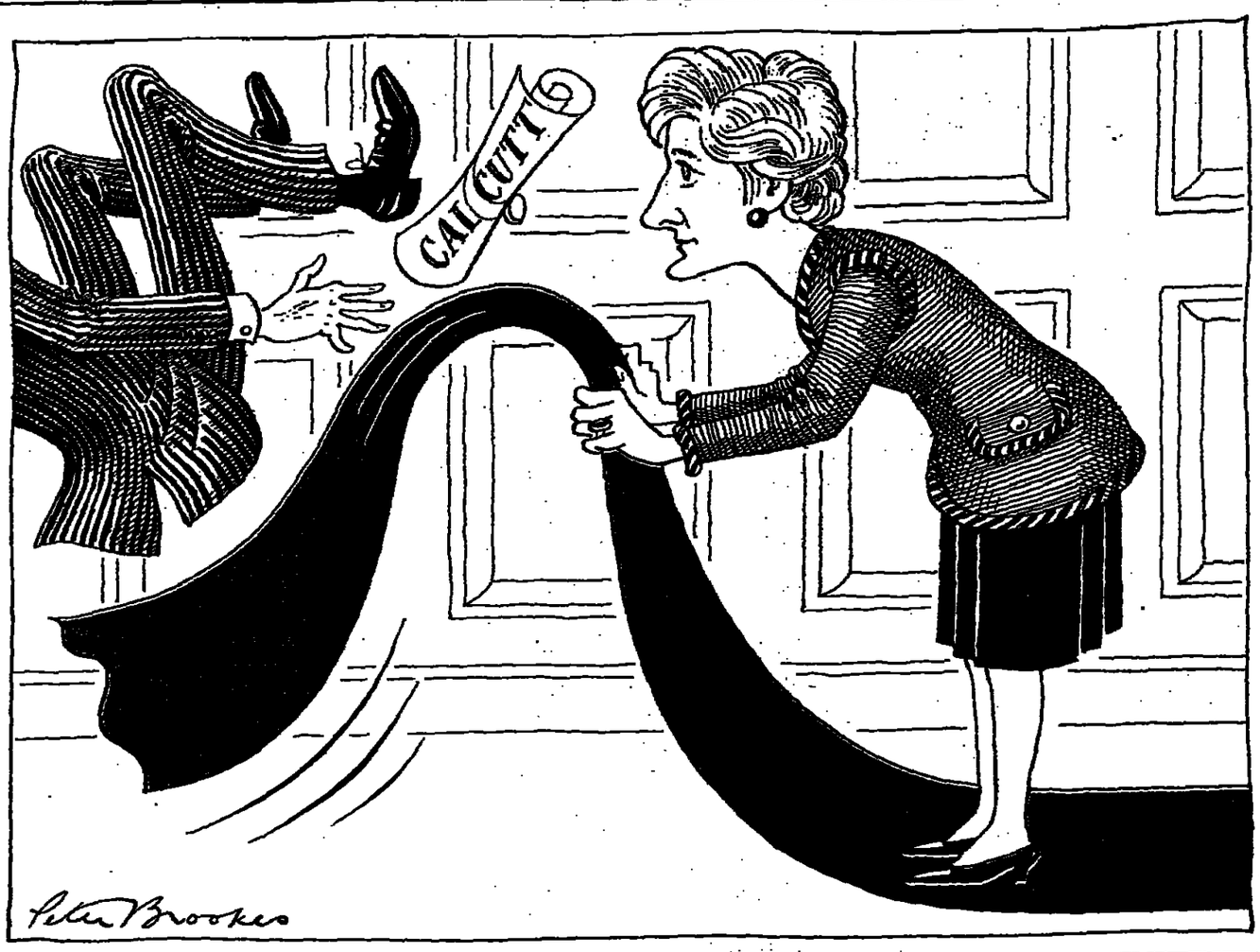
On Sunday, I found myself watching yet another new TV detective. She was called Anna Lee, and I knew she was a detective long before she began detecting anything, because she was driving an idiosyncratic car. It was not, mind, as idiosyncratic as Morse's Mark II Jaguar, Columbo's clapped-out Peugeot, Bergerac's Triumph roadster, Templar's racing Volvo, the pristine Poirot-Hastings Lagonda, or even Miss Marple's wonky Rudge, it was merely a battered Sunbeam Alpine (because the first thing you detect, if you are a new TV detective, is that there is not much left in The Idiosyncratic Car Company showrooms), but it will do. And if Ms Lee lacks a waxed moustache, a glass eye, a real-ale problem, a Gorbals accent, a deerstalker hat, a wheelchair, a cassock, an 00 prefix, a halo, or any of the other quirky accoutrements of her shamus heritage, she has nevertheless chiselled out a little hallmark by flashing her underwear a lot. Eliciting, if nothing else, deep relief from the millions of viewers thankful that Columbo didn't think of it first.

But is this enough? Or to put it another way, is enough not enough? For there is now little else on the box but (call it) dicktion, and it is quite possible that before very long there will be nothing else: any day now, surely, the nation's nocturnal fodder will be a gumshoe continuum stretching from northernmost Taggart to southernmost Wexford, seamless as the fitted Axminster beneath our drowsing feet. And it will not do; this island race deserves more, after a punishing day at the rock-face, than a boxful of eccentrics in peculiar bangers rattling from one corpse to another in the desperate attempt to put two and two together, while superiors threaten, suspects evanesce, spouses whinge, and second-unit directors hug themselves at having stumbled upon an even more photogenic cranny of Balliol or Clydeside.

Yet what is to be done, if the nation's evident penchant for vicarious mayhem is to be satisfied? How is variety to be introduced to a genre already beyond the limits of its invention? And don't you just love that moment in an article when the laboured point suddenly becomes as clear as a solution dawning across the broad baffled uplands of Sgt Lewis?

I give you Butcher. Not only is the eponymous hero an endearingly quirky cove — a Sinclair C-5, a ginger wig, a Runcorn accent, a wooden leg, a collection of Alma Cogan 78s, an addiction to Ribena, an Estonian wife, a Garrick vest, a pet mandrill — he is unique in that all the crimes with which he is involved defy solution; which adds not merely essential originality to the series, but refreshing authenticity, too. Nor does this bother Butcher one whit; quite the contrary, for our hero is not a detective at all, he is a murderer. He has a dim but devoted subordinate, Gore, and each week the dedicated duo set out gamely to perform a singularly tricky killing. In, of course, a picturesque setting: could be, say, hanging the bishop from his Salisbury bell-rope, poisoning the keeper of the Eddystone light, strangling an international rock star in the Great Bed of Ware, shooting the provost during the Eton wall game, pushing a cabinet minister off Beachy Head ... but, naturally, none of this would be a glamorous doddle, it would involve much routine murderwork — but fascinating for the forensically naive — in the selection of victim, *modus operandi*, weapon, transport, disguise, alibi, and so forth, and both Butcher and Gore would find themselves hectored by wives ("Look at the state of this axe, have you taken my rubber gloves again, who's that stiff in the wardrobe ..."), threatened by superiors ("We payin' you bigga money for thissa contract, *paysano*, woffor you no gettin' a result yet?"), and, yes, at constant loggerheads, as usual, with the sarcastic uniformed branch ("Excuse me, sir, that wouldn't be your Sinclair on the double-yellow line, would it?").

Let us hope that not only John Birt but all the new franchisees, too, are reading this. Given the poverty of what is currently on offer, somebody could make a killing.



The perils of pondering

Things are going wrong when our leaders take weekends away from their desks to start thinking about long-term policies

Simon Jenkins

You know the scene. Morale low, turnover down, sense of drift ... The boss brightly suggests "we all go off somewhere for a quiet weekend to think about the longer term". Bags are packed, spouses excused. Planning division is roused from its slumber for a paper. Afterwards everyone murmurs, "frightfully useful ... really should do this sort of thing more often". In a day or two things get back to normal.

I was once advised always to sell shares in companies that have "strategy weekends". They are a sure sign of loss of nerve. If leaders cannot get executives to think strategically in the normal course of business, a hotel binge will not help.

But what about governments? Amid much razzmatazz, the prime minister last weekend invited his advisers to a series of sessions to bridge the "vision gap". Papers of penetrating depth were prepared, Sir David Frost warned, columnists briefed. With the horrors of the EC presidency behind him, John Major was back in the saddle, booted and spurred, halloing across Buckinghamshire countryside in pursuit of the Great Idea.

I hope it escaped him. For modern politicians thinking long term is a momentary spasm. Like religious observance, it comes over them once or twice a year, but seldom for more than a weekend. Once they have cleaned the platitudes off their gumboots, they forget all about it. Yet the exercise retains its appeal. The long term is regarded as inherently virtuous, the short term as venal. Day-to-day crisis management is a corrupting diversion from the duties of philosopher kingship. King Alfred was right to burn the cakes: his mind was on higher things. If only Bosnia and coal and Maastricht and the PSBR were out of the way, Mr Major and his colleagues would be reading Milton, revising the Prayer Book and updating Keynes's General Theory.

I could not be less interested in Mr Major's "vision" for Britain. I have read most of his utterances on the subject and they are pure flannel. His foreward to the Tory 1992 Campaign Guide could be a star entry in an Oxford Book of Cliché: a necklace of such cultured pearls as patriotism, choice, responsibility, challenge, confidence, endeavour, "the power to choose and the right to own". The nearest he comes to a strategy is his "secure framework" to which there must be no "soft option": staying in the ERM. Pope has clearly triumphed: "For forms of government, let fools contest/ Whate're is best administered is best."

The modern prime minister rarely has any background in philosophy or economic history. He is expected to be competent not uplifting, to chair tough meetings, speak home truths when required and to show public rather than personal interest in his myriad decisions. The days when theoretic U-turns had leaders prostrating themselves on cathedral steps ended, if not with Henry II, at least with Lord Callaghan at the Treasury. Mr Major is short term or he is nothing. Any "vision" scripted at Chequers at the weekend can be edited, paused, put on fast forward or simply wiped.

But if Downing Street is not to think strategy, to chart the uncertain course of post-Thatcherism, who is? My answer is that this should be done at a more mundane level within the big departments of state: education, environment, health, industry, defence. A common student howler is that the inner core of British government — the whips office, the Treasury, the No 10 policy team — are the "strategists" of the public sector, departmental ministers are its mere administrators. The reverse is the truth.

Downing Street, whether of choice or necessity, is about crisis management. Its exhausted denizens fuss over parliamentary timetables, broker rows with the Treasury, worry about Europe, pour whisky on the jangling sensitivities of cabinet ministers and spend much time manipulating the media. This is political management in the raw. Its strategy is electoral, or in the Treasury's case short-term economic. But it touches hardly at all on the business end of government.

Increasingly, those who do well in Downing Street, in the whips office and Treasury, are a distinct caste from those out in the ministerial boondocks. They live by a 24-hour clock, not a calendar. And they get to the top. Today's inner circle — Mr Major, Gus O'Donnell, Sir Robin Butler, Norman Lamont, Lord Wakeham, Richard Ryder — have little or no experience of big spending departments. I am sure this is one reason why they were able to perform the astonishing U-turn on September 16 with such aplomb, and bat not an eyelid in revealing every detail of the crisis afterwards to the many newspaper round-ups (are ministers wholly exempt from the 30-year rule?).

The gulf that separates Nos 10, 11 and 12 Downing Street from the Whitehall "spending" empires is now the most fundamental in British politics. To each the other is enemy territory, onto which it strays only fully armed. The memoirs of Nigel Lawson or Bernard Ingham (both Downing Street) tell of a different political realm from those of, say, Norman Fowler, David Young or Cecil Parkinson (all Whitehall). Each of the latter in his own way sought to change the future of his corner of the public sector. Each was forced to think strategically.

Indeed the only time I have a "strategic" political conversation is with just such ministers, in departments struggling to manage change. They are restructuring the railways, or the hospitals, or the school curriculum, or the prison service. They are pondering the future of British science or the tiers of local government. They are searching for a policy that marries coal to gas to nuclear energy, or marries farm incomes to the future of European agriculture. They may be making a hash of it. But it is they who must convince the experts and confront the lobbies and write the white papers. They must gamble with the future.

Every time they formulate a strategy and send it off to Downing Street for approval, like as not it returns bent and buckled beyond recognition. One of the myths of the 1980s was that Margaret Thatcher was the ideological strategist, her ministers obstructive pragmatists. True she would set a hare, but she rarely let it run. Both Paul Channon and Lord Parkinson were stopped by her from privatising rail for reasons that were purely electoral. She even censored a reference to the topic from Lord Parkinson's 1990 conference speech. Many of the "supply side" changes mooted under Lady Thatcher, to health, to pensions, to the legal profession, to civil service reform, were changes in which radicalism from departmental ministers was toned down in Downing Street. Even the benighted poll tax left its original creators in almost coherent shape. Downing Street pressure tore it asunder with rebates and exclusions and sent it heading for the Downing Street dustbin. The press was yesterday blithely told that the "political case" for keeping unprofitable pits open had won over the radical "economic case".

Much of this is inevitable. Downing Street's concerns are political and politics is often, if not usually, about the short term. Nor is this new. The cabinet rarely debates strategy. Its role is not to "set policy in a wider framework" but to spread blame and and thereby keep the show on the road and the cabinet collectively responsible. This has its uses, and may even help push through some tough decisions (like abandoning poll tax). But at least we might end the fiction that Downing Street is the fount of strategy. Such strategy as government needs is smaller in scale, closer to the administrative coalface.

I suppose prime ministers will always crave a vision or two. Those such as Disraeli or Churchill or even Lady Thatcher were popularly seen as holding distinctive ideas of how Britain should be run, however scant the impact on their conduct of government. If Mr Major wants an occasional strategy weekend, if only for show, he will have one. He may even go exploring and find that the end of that exploring, as Eliot said, "will be to arrive where we started/And know the place for the first time".

But the philosophers are right: politics is moving into a post-rational phase. The planners are discredited. The statisticians and forecasters are humbled. Beyond the immediate future, it is governed not by laws but by behavioural patterns impossible to predict. Visions or strategies merely obscure this truth. Prime ministers should thus find God in the details. They should respect the short term and keep their noses to the grindstone. Their job is what comes next, not the thereafter.

Giving industry a chance

Howard Davies calls for a Budget for manufacturing

One of the least edifying debates of the 1980s centred on the question of whether or not Britain needed a strong manufacturing base. The fiercest battle raged between the then Chancellor, Nigel Lawson and Lord Aldington's House of Lords committee on trade. Attitudes were struck, harsh words spoken, and the two sides became polarised. Manufacturing doesn't matter, cried the Treasury; only manufacturing matters, parodied its opponents.

Over the last two years there have been signs of a general move to less extreme positions. Of course manufacturing matters, but that does not mean we neglect our competitive, world-class service industries such as retailing, tourism, and financial services. However, we cannot ignore the needs of manufacturing industry, which is best placed to exploit the world's most rapidly growing markets.

That is why the whole membership of the Confederation of British Industry, including the service sector, was behind the establishment of a national manufacturing council, to promote the interests of manufacturing industry. And we were encouraged by the moves in the Chancellor's autumn statement on investment allowances and export credit, together with Michael Heseltine's rhetoric, to believe that the government shared our view that a new focus on manufacturing was justified. But our optimism was rudely shattered recently, when Norman Lamont lent his name to a curious publication from Conservative Central Office, called "The Performance of British Manufacturing". Its message was that the manufacturing revival we seek had already occurred and that British manufacturing is "on a strengthening long-term trend".

To someone charged with representing the interests of British industry, this poses an uncomfortable dilemma. It sits ill with the CBI to persuade the government that British industry is not as good as they think. That is not a song my members pay me to sing. On the other hand, if the government really believes that all is for the best in British manufacturing while we run an alarming trade deficit in the depths of recession, we have a problem. What else might they believe? That public spending is under control? Or that Graham Taylor is on track to bring home the World Cup in 1996?

Of course it is true, as the Central Office pamphlet argues, that manufacturing competitiveness has improved in the last decade. Productivity rose sharply through the 1980s, faster than that of our European competitors, and almost as fast as in Japan. It is also true that manufacturing exports have held up remarkably well, even in recession. And our success in attracting inward investment, particularly from Japan, means that we are now very well placed to compete in the automotive industry, and some parts of consumer electronics.

But it is simply wrong to maintain that productivity is no longer a problem, as the paper seeks to do. Even the Treasury disagrees, explaining in its Economic Bulletin last summer that "Despite the significant catching up during the 1980s, the level of hourly productivity in UK manufacturing is still substantially lower than that in France and Germany, and perhaps only half of that in the United States." On that point the Chancellor should believe his own officials, not the Conservative Research Department.

More importantly, the Chancellor also seeks to debunk the theory that Britain's manufacturing base, while increasingly competitive, is still too small. It is true that manufacturing output as a proportion of gross domestic product has declined in other old industrialised nations, as well as in Britain. But it has declined further and faster here than almost anywhere else; by 4.2 per cent in the 1980s, compared to 3.1 per cent in France and only 1.6 per cent in Germany — in each case from a higher base.

It is now widely accepted, even by commentators like Samuel Brittan — in the past a profound sceptic about the consequences, or even the existence, of balance of payments deficits — that our current account deficit will constrain growth in the next recovery phase. In the depths of recession, the deficit on the current account of the balance of payments is running at around 2 per cent of GDP. Despite the recession, we are still spending more than we are producing. Unless growth in consumer spending is matched by an expansion of manufacturing, the deficit will rise faster as the economy expands — threatening an inflationary decline in sterling or higher interest rates (or both).

So the recovery we expect this year must, as far as possible, be led by investment, production and exports rather than by domestic consumption. We need a benign corporate tax regime, low interest rates and strong support for exports. That is the essence of our Budget submission to the Chancellor this month.

In his autumn statement Norman Lamont seemed to accept those priorities. That is why the CBI supported him then. Now we are not so sure, and will be watching the Budget very carefully. Will the Chancellor be influenced by what British industry is telling him, or be swayed by short-termist political propaganda from Central Office?

The author is director-general of the CBI.

Affairs of the art

HAD IT not been for Neil MacGregor's throwaway comment last year that the National Gallery "has always been a pick-up joint", Channel 4 would probably never have thought of filming *Do You Come Here Often?*, to be shown appropriately on St Valentine's day.

The programme consists of first-person accounts of people who have initiated affairs in galleries, as well as fly-on-the-wall filming in the Tate Gallery, the Wallace Collection and the Royal Academy. The National Gallery, however, refused access, a sign to the producer, Andrea Comes, that MacGregor, the gallery's director, is regretting his comment.

"I had this feeling they were a little bit sensitive about the subject," she says. "Everywhere else we approached happily allowed us to film." MacGregor would not comment but a spokeswoman drily insists: "We have building work on at the moment so it was not possible."

At the V&A Comes interviewed Mike Dillon, a part-time lecturer in fashion textiles, who revealed that two of the museum's prize exhibits were altered because of the amatory demands of the staff. The Great Bed of Ware, the famous 10ft-wide 16th-century Hertfordshire four-poster, had its mattress removed, while the door at the bottom of the hollow replica of the Trajan column had to be locked. Dillon says it was used as a "trysting place". It now acts as a chair storeroom.

Bob's big bite

AMONG the personal effects of Robert Maxwell to be auctioned by Sotheby's tomorrow is an intriguing reminder of apparently



happier times with the Serious Crime Squad. Buried in lot 301 is a wine glass with an engraved inscription from the squad and, on either side of the police coat of arms, the letter and figure C1 — the squad's old Scotland Yard designation. The glass dates from the days, a decade ago, when senior officers had a dining club. Guests were presented with an engraved wine glass as a memento.

More indicative, perhaps, of recent events is lot 631, an 18-carat gold Parker 61 fountain pen which Maxwell used to sign his deals. The pen comes complete with tooth marks which, according to Sotheby's, are the result of "one fearsome bite, not continual chewing, probably during the signing of one particular deal". Pity he left his pensioners to bite the bullet.

THE TIMES DIARY

● *Sir John Caines, permanent secretary at the education department, has the rare distinction of having worked with both Pattens — Chris at the Overseas Development Agency and John at education. Yesterday it fell to the latter to present Sir John with a gift to mark his retirement. The gift? Mindful of his stringent account keeping, his colleagues thought something recycled might be appropriate and presented him with the brass name plate from his office at the old Department of Education and Science building. Good to see public expenditure under such tight control.*

Pan handler

THE bottom may have fallen out of the antiques market but no one seems to have told Lovejoy, the BBC's roguish antiques dealer. On Sunday night Lovejoy was touting a Napoleonic commode, one of seven made by the famous cabinet maker George Bullock, for £20,000. In June this year his fans will be able to buy the real thing from Blairmans stand at the Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, but for only £5,000. "Lovejoy was seeking a little more than we are," says an amused George Levy, of Blairmans, in Mount Street, Mayfair.





Argyll saga's latest twist

THE contested divorce of the 11th Duke of Argyll and his third wife Margaret (left) was one of the most lurid cases this century. Lord Wheatley, the judge, found that the duchess had committed adultery with three named men and with a fourth, whose anonymous torso caused such a stir.

The decree was granted almost 30 years ago, but the memories are still painful. Painful enough indeed for Mafhilda, the Duchess of Argyll (right), whom the Duke married three months after the end of the divorce, to stop work on her autobiography. Commissioned by the London publisher Peter Owen two years ago, the dowager duchess has so far written only three chapters, on her childhood. Now it may never be published.

The Duchess says: "It is that whole episode that puts me off carrying on. I would not want to look at it but I realise that that it was what people want to read about. People will be looking for the slightest reflection on it."

A spokesman from Peter Owen said he was "devastated" to hear that she was unlikely to finish writing, because the chapters she wrote on her childhood were "brilliant". He adds: "But we would have wanted something on the divorce."

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INTRUSION AND COLLUSION

Laws to protect privacy are much less likely now

Debating about press freedom has become too much like prize fighting. From the blue corner streams a string of punches aimed at cowing newspapers with statutary controls: from the red corner comes the figure of editorial independence, a contestant who sometimes over the past few months has seemed a little battered and past his prime.

Earlier this week it seemed that Sir David Calcutt, Sir Ivan Lawrence MP and other would-be curbers of the press might be winning their struggle. Yesterday, by contrast, the points were piled up high by the opposing side. Last night the loudest sound in Downing Street was of towels being thrown into the ring.

The treatment of the royal family has become central to the argument of politicians and jurists who want to impose privacy laws and other restrictions upon newspapers. Elected officials know that sympathy for themselves, for the likes of David Mellor and Norman Lamont, is strictly limited. They must rely instead on their claim to be protecting either the public — an argument which they fear will not stand up for long — or those great British institutions which, they like to say, cannot fight back for themselves.

The royal family, it is now clear, does not need its self-serving knights of Westminster. The freshly revealed letter to Sir David by the Press Complaints Commission chairman, Lord McGregor, provides powerful evidence that the Prince and Princess of Wales, during their protracted marital wrangles, were more manipulative of the press than manipulated by it.

Everyone knows now, what only a few knew before, that during the salacious coverage of the Prince and Princess of Wales's marriage much of the most scandalous information was provided by the royal couple themselves and their friends. Supporters of the Prince and Princess were orchestrating a public relations war, using different sections of the press as their appointed outlets for the dissemination of material damaging to the other side.

This dismal truth was widely known in Whitehall it appears. But far from putting a brake upon the Calcutt inquiries the Government accelerated the process of intimidation. It will doubtless be said now that the Prime Minister never really intended to impose a tribunal upon newspaper editors and was merely humouring angry backbenchers, drawing the sting of their attacks and hoping to encourage some voluntarily improved behaviour by journalists.

The result was to encourage extraordinary attacks on the press for intrusion into royal privacy — an attack joined by many who should have known better. The most colourful language was used by Lord McGregor himself who, believing royal denials of their role in the scandalmongering, attacked the "odious exhibition of journalists dabbling their fingers in the stuff of other people's souls". The souls in question turned out not to be of the Christian variety, the spiritual part of a being, but of an earlier Platonic sort, the essence of reason and will — two very fierce wills, it appeared.

Those whose views on the need for new privacy laws have been affected by press treatment of the royal family should now be asking on how many other occasions they have been deceived. It is precisely the difficulty in distinguishing those who are genuinely intruded upon from those who seek to manipulate publicity, which makes legislation to limit free comment so problematic, and so potentially dangerous.

Today the path for a free press looks clearer than before. If the verdict does eventually go against new curbs, the McGregor letter will be indeed akin to those sporting incidents that turn an unequal contest around. But not for a year need legislation be prepared. The important cabinet decisions are not for Thursday, when ministers will first discuss Sir David's plans, but for the Autumn. Much more bad blood can flow before then.

NO CASH FOR MR CLINTON

The incoming president will find the cupboard is bare

During the election campaign, Bill Clinton made some irresponsible promises. While pledging to halve the deficit and cut taxes on the middle classes, he offered to increase public investment and extend healthcare. As Richard Darman, the outgoing budget director, points out, the sums do not add up. No stranger himself to dodgy arithmetic, Mr Darman has now made the sums more incredible by admitting that the budget deficit will be even larger than projected, exceeding $300 billion in 1997. But that at least gives Mr Clinton the excuse to adopt the sort of responsible policies he should have espoused all along.

On Monday Mr Clinton's budget director-designate, Leon Panetta, admitted that the revised deficit projections make Mr Clinton's campaign pledges far harder to meet. Tax cuts have moved way down the agenda, with deficit-cutting taking first place. But even that has been watered down: halving the deficit has been transformed from a pledge to a "goal". Meanwhile public investment to stimulate the economy may have to be less dramatic.

A dilution of Mr Clinton's overambitious plans is precisely what his country needs. The economy is recovering faster than was expected before the election. Interest rates remain low and confidence is returning. To provide large public investment or tax cuts now would be to overegg the recovery.

But even without that economic stimulus, the deficit still looks alarmingly large, particularly if Mr Clinton really intends to deliver health insurance to the 37 million Americans who do not qualify for state-sponsored health coverage but have no insurance of their own. The $300 billion projection was made on the assumption of substantial cuts in spending; without them it could rise close to $400 billion.

So the new president must either raise taxes or cut spending, maybe both. His plans to increase taxes on the rich and on foreign companies will raise little. But his apparent turnaround in favour of higher petrol taxes makes both economic and environmental sense. He may, too, have to consider taxing the pension entitlement that goes to all Americans, rich or poor.

Thorniest, but potentially most rewarding, would be a reform of healthcare. Americans spend an inordinate amount on their health — 14 per cent of GDP — with not much better results than in other developed countries. Indeed the US government spends roughly the same proportion of GDP on healthcare just for the old and the poor as Britain spends on the entire NHS.

The medical and insurance lobbies are certainly powerful, but they may soon be matched by those of business and patients. Americans are more worried about paying for their health than anything else. And employers' healthcare costs are forcing up the prices of their goods. In an internationally competitive market, American medicine is in danger of bleeding American industry to death. Mr Clinton must attack the doctor to rescue the patient.

MELTED INTO THIN AIRS

The modern quest for the authentic Mozart is a false trail

To recover past time is a common day-dream, as is its optimistic opposing tendency to imagine that things are managed better today than in the past. There can be few who have not day-dreamed what the first night of *Hamlet* was actually like for its audience, or who have not wanted a conversation with Socrates, taking care not to be led up the garden path by leading questions. But it is in music that moderns strive hardest to recapture their past, and flatter themselves on their authenticity. The sounds have vanished into thin air, and all we are left with are their inadequate notations. Spurred on by improved recording technologies and a lucrative industry, recordings are sold of Mozart "as the composer himself might have heard it". And period instruments are recreated to plink it exactly as it is supposed to have been at the court of Joseph II.

A bomb has been dropped on this musically correct modern orthodoxy by *Early Recordings and Musical Style* by Robert Philip. A Cambridge don, who has enjoyed the crackle and hiss of his old 78s for years, he has asked a question as tactless as that of the child who wanted to know where the Emperor's clothes were. Recordings exist of the Elgar, Stravinsky, Rachmaninov, Holst, and the other composers of the beginning of the 20th century conducting their own music. Why does it sound so very different from the way it is played now? By the evidence of ears, modern recordings of them are not authentic in the sense of "as the composer himself conducted it".

There are many reasons. Instruments have been improved. Orchestral regimentation has been introduced. Elgar's generation regarded the score as a starting-point rather than a computer format, and valued emotion more than precision.

If there were no recordings of Elgar and Stravinsky, to reconstruct what their music sounded like from their scores and contemporary accounts would be laughably wide of the mark. For any music played before 1880, the written evidence is all that there is. If the written sources are as unreliable as they are proved by recordings to be for the first quarter of this century, they are actively misleading. Historically aware, "authentic" performances of Mozart or Bach on period instruments are not at all as the composer would have played them.

Each generation re-interprets the works of the past to suit its own taste and preconceptions. Any worthwhile piece of music can be given many different interpretations, even by the same conductor.

The concept of pristine authenticity is an unattainable day-dream, especially in music. Shakespeare might have enjoyed being able to use actresses instead of boys for women's parts, and the freedom of producing *Henry V* for television instead of in the cockpit of the Globe. Socrates would have been a wizard of the television chat-show. And Mozart might have preferred the interpretation of his work by modern orchestras, with reasonably silent modern audiences. The past has vanished beyond recovery, in music above all the arts. It is a delusion of the gullible to pretend that it can be recovered. It is not even desirable.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Release a dilemma for mental health review tribunals

From Professor Aubrey J. Yates

Sir, Your report (January 1) of the case of a patient who was released from a maximum 28-day Section 2 detention order under the Mental Health Act by order of a mental heath review, only to be detained again on a maximum six-month Section 3 detention order by her psychiatrist, raises a number of important issues.

Mental health review tribunals tend to release patients from a Section if, on the day the tribunal meets, the patient appears not to be mentally ill. But the "normality" of the patient may be a function of heavy medication and the psychiatrist may feel that the patient is not well enough to be released. Furthermore, two medical opinions and an application by an approved social worker (ASW) would have been required in order to detain the patient again.

Had the ASW refused to make an application, the patient could not have been detained under Section 3 of the Mental Health Act. Thus, three persons who knew the patient well must have agreed that she needed to be detained. In this sense, the rights of the patient were maintained.

There are, however, two alarming aspects to this matter. First, the psychiatrist is alleged to have said that the patient was "histrionic, irritable and distracted". I would not have thought that such behaviour would justify detention under the Act.

Second, the psychiatrist said that the patient was re-sectioned because she was unlikely to comply with undertakings that she would take her medication and seek outside help. Again, I believe that a prediction of this kind is not sufficient cause under the Act to detain a patient compulsorily.

This raises a final point. Many patients are released into the community only because their medication renders their behaviour "normal". In fact, they are changing one "prison" (compulsory detention in a hospital) for another "prison" (drug control of their mind).

Since it is known that a significant proportion of such patients will stop taking their medication and refuse help, resulting in deterioration and subsequent readmission, what is the psychiatrist to do? Can he justify detaining the patient in hospital until he can show that she can survive without drugs, since it is impossible to force a patient, once released from hospital, to continue medication or to seek help?

The psychiatrist's action in this case reveals the very real dilemma faced by psychiatrists: a choice between releasing or continuing to detain a patient whose apparent "normality" is known to conceal a continuing severe mental disorder.

Yours sincerely,
AUBREY J. YATES,
8 Willow Street, Llanrwst, Gwynedd.
January 2.

From Dr Harry Jacobs

Sir, Your excellent leader, "Care for the vulnerable" (January 5), could have had a crucial rider: the most upsetting stories arise from failure to obtain in-patient care for very ill psychiatric cases in the face of clear and unmistakable signs that the danger signals allowing community care, or "taking an optimistic view", have been grossly exceeded.

There are now barriers of all kinds to humane protection, not least the continuing reduction in hospital beds in the face of rising psychiatric suicides and homicides.

The review tribunals seem, in many cases, far too weighted against even modest caution; but there is no comeback when they over-ride the clearest omens — contrasting sharply with specialists made scapegoats for the fruits of government policy.

Why are not national records kept of the major positive and negative effects of present policies?

Yours etc,
HARRY JACOBS
(Executive Officer,
Society of Clinical Psychiatrists),
The Coach House, Rochfords,
Wormingford, Colchester, Essex.
January 5.

From Mrs Dorothy Silberston

Sir, A number of recent decisions by mental health review tribunals appear to demonstrate that the tribunal in question had insufficient concern for the patient's health or care, despite a long history of severe mental illness. Damaging effects, both on the patient's physical and mental health and on that of others, were only too likely to follow if release from detention in hospital was too soon.

It is high time for scrutiny of the decisions of these tribunals, and for examination of their very serious consequences for many patients and their families, not to mention the public at large.

Yours faithfully,
DOROTHY SILBERSTON
(Chairman, Medico-legal Committee),
National Schizophrenia Fellowship,
28 Castle Street,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

New hope for old graveyards

From Major Paul Weller

Sir, The poor maintenance of the graveyards around many of the old parish churches in our country is lamentable (Mr Björn Petersson's letter, January 6). The real cause is that the organisation and cost of their upkeep falls solely on the same few active church-goers in each community.

In the diocese of Gloucester we have in the last few years established a handful of "perpetual fabric-fund" trusts, which are already beginning to solve this problem. Every parish should have one. An inalienable trust with tax-free status, separate from parish funds, and with a defined purpose of care, maintenance and repair of a specific church and burial grounds, is very attractive to people from all over the world, regardless of faith.

We have the diocese as governing trustees. Capital is invested through the Church of England. Managing trustees are appointed by the parochial church council. The cost of setting up is small. The endless begging for the fabric stops, but has to be replaced by a short-term effort, or series of efforts, to attract a capital sum by gifts or bequests. This is more efficient and it works.

Yours faithfully,
P. B. WELLER,
Morcombe Farm House,
Caudle Green, Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire.
January 8.

From Mr Alastair Locke

Sir, Considerable resources are devoted to the upkeep of parks and gardens which in most cases are subjects of much local care and pride. Might we not, similarly, turn our thoughts to supporting our churchyards in such care whereby communities could benefit from what could be well tended places of peace, not only collectively but even more individually by those undergoing the trauma of deep grief?

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR LOCKE,
72 Windmill Road,
Mortimer, Reading, Berkshire.
January 7.

From Miss Eve Dennis

Sir, The letter from a Swedish visitor about our graveyards implies that he would like to see them neat and tidy, even to the extent of removing mosses.

Whilst it is true that many of our churchyards are neglected and unkempt, the answer is not to turn them into manicured lawns but to manage them in an ecologically sensitive way to encourage not only mosses and lichens but also many of the native plants and animals for which churchyards often provide the last refuge.

Natural beauty should and can be aesthetically pleasing if sensitively managed and, dare I suggest, a more appropriate setting for many of our old churches.

Yours faithfully,
EVE DENNIS
(Development Officer),
Living Churchyard Project,
The Arthur Rank Centre,
National Agricultural Centre,
Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire.
January 7.

From Mrs Sylvia M. Barnard

Sir, The old Victorian city cemeteries, now green oases in inner-city areas, are ideal wildlife habitats and nearly all of the voluntary groups which have combined in the National Federation of Cemetery Friends have established such a regime.

Part of the task is to educate the public so that visitors see beyond the "unkempt" grass to understand why. In a densely populated urban district, they are able to walk around a piece of land, like our Beckett Street Cemetery in Leeds, where bluebells grow in spring and where they can watch flycatchers, kestrels and goldfinches.

Yours faithfully,
SYLVIA M. BARNARD,
2 North Park Road,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.
January 8.

Help for the East

From Dr Edmund Goldberger

Sir, Your excellent leader, "Broaden the market" (January 5), throws penetrating light upon one of the foremost problems which, if allowed to fester, will lead to consequences the world strenuously strives to avoid.

The much-relieved West made great promises of financial and other help after Eastern Europe's self-liberation. However, as its novelty value diminished, assistance became "you can help yourselves". Poland, the Czechs and Hungary proceeded to do just this without the envisaged greater financial support.

Poland has now 90 per cent privatised trade, 70 per cent agriculture, and a foreign trade surplus (while losing most of its collapsed Russian market), and has contained runaway inflation. But it has also suffered the hardships of some 10 per cent loss of annual GDP.

The humbug perpetrated by affluent Europe consists in the EC closing its markets to the free-market efforts of those who were enticed "to help themselves". The Brussels Commission, with its power to initiate proposals and policies, used it for protectionism to hypocritically postpone consideration of access for ten years while claiming compassion, the virtues of neighbourhood, etc.

Western Europe's complacency must not cause failure in Eastern Europe, which is so near to "the heart of Europe". Instability there, with its inevitable eastward spread, could shake the very heart of Europe.

Yours sincerely,
EDMUND GOLDBERGER,
20 Albion Gate, W2.

Vanishing barrows

From Mr Laurence Keen

Sir, Mr P. F. McCall (letter, January 1) draws attention to damage caused by the ploughing of Bronze Age barrows on the South Dorset Ridgeway, east of Hardy's monument. Without more precise detail it is impossible to know to which of these several hundred barrows he refers; but damage by ploughing to any archaeological monument is a matter of very serious concern.

The Ancient Monuments (Class Consents) Order 1981 provides consent for ploughing to continue legally over monuments which had been ploughed during the five years preceding October 9, 1981. Thus many of the Ridgeway barrows are being ploughed legally, year after year, leading inevitably to the ultimate destruction of perhaps the finest linear distribution of archaeological monuments and landscape in the country.

We must look for protection to English Heritage, which has a statutory lead role to play in the protection and management of scheduled ancient monuments. Most of the Dorset barrows are so designated, and while some of them can be conserved under the Countryside Commission's stewardship agreements for returning arable land to chalk downland, English Heritage alone has the data on which to propose to landowners practical and financial arrangements for their preservation and conservation.

Yours faithfully,
LAURENCE KEEN
(County Archaeological Officer),
County Planning Department,
Dorset County Council,
County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

International trials

From Colonel Patrick Montgomery

Sir, Judge King-Hamilton's letter (December 30) pressing for effective machinery to bring to justice those responsible for war crimes is most welcome: such machinery is long overdue and, as Judge King-Hamilton points out, its earlier acceptance could have deterred crimes in many countries.

But why is the commission to report to the Security Council a "war crimes commission"? How is a war crime defined? Would the Libyan bombing suspects escape trial? What about the excesses perpetrated in Bosnia? Does a civil war count? Would the prolonged gang-rape of Karen women forced to be porters and prostitutes for the Burmese army count as a war crime?

There is a danger that those who are in a position to prevent such crimes will leave their subordinates to stand trial for them. This can be prevented. When Lord Caradon was governor of Cyprus a rumour reached him that captured terrorists had been tortured by British Army interrogators. In one night Lord Caradon, with General Darling, his GOC, visited without warning every intelligence office on the island. They could find no evidence of torture. This, of course, proved nothing.

By mid-morning, however, the whole island knew that the governor was taking personal responsibility for whatever his troops might do. They too knew that, if they let him down, retribution would be swift. While Lord Caradon remained in Cyprus there was not another rumour of torture.

If a head of state finds the heat in the kitchen too hot he has a remedy. He must control his subjects or make way for another to do so. Tyrants do sometimes fall and then become vulnerable to international justice. A single exemplary sentence by an international court could have a salutary effect world-wide.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK MONTGOMERY,
The Oast House,
Buxted, East Sussex.

Truth in politics

From Mr R. C. Child

Sir, This placebo government seems to have acquired a new "buzz" phrase — "virtuous cycle". Would not "veritable cycle" be more appropriate? After all, we want the truth, not a politician's idea of morality.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. CHILD,
167a Portland Road,
Wyke Regis, Weymouth, Dorset.
January 5.

Trying everything once

From Mr Raymond Harris

Sir,
When writing today on Marje Proops
Lynne Truss made one of her bloops
'Twas not Beecham but Bax
(Lynne *must* check her facts)
Who did not like dancing in groups.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND HARRIS,
5 Alwyne Square, N1.
January 5.

Sayers centenary

From Mr Cosmo Russell

Sir, The sympathetic article by Libby Purves on the centenary of Dorothy L. Sayers (January 4) made no reference to an achievement which may well prove the reason to remember Miss Sayers most.

Through her knowledge of medieval Italian she was able to translate into English, in continuous nine-metre couplets, the first two volumes — *Hell* and *Purgatory* — of Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

So, published in tasteful paperback, one of the great classics of the world was available as a work of the highest distinction to millions of readers to whom this immense privilege would have been denied.

Miss Barbara Reynolds completed the work, translating the *Paradise* volume according to Dorothy's method and with similar invaluable notes.

Yours etc,
COSMO RUSSELL,
Parapet House, Lenham, Kent.
January 4.

Unemployment's blight

From Mr Peter Sozou

Sir, Clearly it is true that unemployment would be lower if the cost to employers of hiring labour were reduced (Mr George Scales's letter, January 9). The real problem lies in the poverty trap created by the present benefits system, whereby for those whose earnings are below the income support level an increase in earnings is largely wiped out by a reduction in benefit payments.

This amounts to a very high marginal rate of taxation on the lowest-paid workers; it is both socially unjust and economically insane. The problem is exacerbated by the government's policy of increased means-testing ("targeting") of benefits.

Yours faithfully,
P. SOZOU,
Birkbeck College,
Department of Computer Science,
Malet Street, WC1.
January 10.

From Mr William Eddis

Sir, George Scales asserts that "industries which support excess labour to avoid unemployment become uncompetitive". He seems not to have looked at Japan where, in spite of a stream of announcements of lay-offs and staff reductions in recent months, official unemployment levels remain almost unchanged.

In large part this is because companies ensure that trained, skilled employees are retained, maybe with lower pay and status. In the less skilled and casual sectors in most cases there are reductions in working hours and overtime rather than outright redundancy.

Since in a recession this process occurs across all companies in an industry, individual competitiveness is affected only marginally. It really works as a private-sector social security net, with the added advantage that, when an upturn comes, there is no need for recruitment or training, with associated delays and expense.

It would be difficult to persuade British companies to adopt this practice, even if it were considered desirable, but the example is nonetheless relevant.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM EDDIS
(Anglo-Japanese business consultant),
56 Garendon Green,
Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Mr Scales, whose letter, published on January 9, is referred to above, is a member of the Economic Research Council, not the Economic and Social Research Council as printed.

Property speculation

From Mr Richard P. Cousens

Sir, My family was driven to distraction by your feature, "Driving the family to distraction, via Sainsbury's" (Weekend, January 9).

The main photograph shows a glamorous couple, complete with toddler, enjoying a game of Monopoly on the carpet. Although there are hotels on Vine Street and Bow Street, there are no houses on the linked Marlborough Street. The Angel Islington, too, has suffered a spate of development at the expense of Pentonville Road. There is a hotel on Mayfair, but no development in Park Lane.

I challenge any couple to play Monopoly on the floor with a toddler present and thus am not surprised that they disregarded the rules governing property development. They should have gone to Sainsbury's instead.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD P. COUSENS,
7 The Terrace,
London Road, Camberley, Surrey.

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COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM

January 12: By Command of The Queen, Vice Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Mr Sylvestre Radegonde at Eros House, 111 Baker Street, London W1, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for the Republic of Seychelles in London.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue (Director of the Roual Collection) at the Memorial Service for Sir Francis Watson (formerly Surveyor of The Queen's Works of Art) which was held in St Peter's Church, Eaton Square, London SW1, today.

Mrs Robert de Pass has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

January 12: The Prince Edward, Patron, the Ocean Youth Club, this afternoon visited the London International Boat Show, Earls Court Exhibition Centre, London SW5.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, this evening held a meeting at Buckingham Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE

January 12: The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, Order of St John, this morning received Lord Westbury, on relinquishing the appointment as Bailiff of Egle and Lord Remnant on assuming the appointment.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, Britain-Nepal Society, this afternoon received Colonel James Evans on relinquishing the appointment as Chairman of the Society and Sir Neil Thorne on assuming the appointment.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales will visit St Catherine's Hospice, Lostock Hall, near Preston, Lancashire, at 11.45; will visit Leyland DAF, Leyland Assembly Plant, Preston, at 12.40; and will open the magnetic resonance imaging unit at Royal Preston Hospital at 2.20.

Prince Edward, as President of the Lord's Taverners, will attend the umpires' dinner at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 8.00.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior of the Order of St John, will perform the installation ceremony for the new Bailiff Grand Cross and Bailiff of Egle at St John's Gate, Clerkenwell, at 11.50.

The Duchess of Kent, patron, will visit Helen House Hospice, 37 Leopold Street, Oxford, at noon.

Birthdays today

Mr Craigie Aitchison, painter, 67; Air Marshal Sir John Baker-Carr, 87; Sir Johannes Bjelke-Petersen, former Premier of Queensland, 82; Mr Richard Blackford, composer, 39; Mr Michael Bond, author and creator of Paddington Bear, 67; Dr Sydney Brenner, CH, molecular biologist, 66; Sir John Caines, civil servant, 60; Lady Donaldson of Kingsbridge, author, 86; the Earl of Essex, 73; *Mr Stephen Glover, former editor, The Independent on Sunday*, 41; Mr Stephen Hendry, snooker player, 24; Mr Olaf Lambert, former vice-president, AA, 68; Mr Ronan Rafferty, golfer, 29; Mr Harry Roach, non-executive chairman, GMTV, 59; *Mr Bernard Shrimsley*, journalist, 62; Mr K.C. Turpin, former vice-chancellor, Oxford University, 78.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jan van Goyen, landscape painter, Leiden, The Netherlands, 1596; Charles Perrault, writer and collector of folk tales, Paris, 1628.

DEATHS: Edmund Spenser, poet, London, 1599; George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends, London, 1691; James Macknight, biblical critic, Edinburgh, 1800; John Scott, 1st Earl of Eldon, Lord Chancellor 1801-6 and 1807-27, *London, 1838*: Fabian Bellinghausen, Polar explorer, Russia, 1852; Stephen Collins Foster, songwriter, New York, *1864*; *Sir John Seeley*, historian, Cambridge, 1895; James Joyce, novelist, Zurich, 1941; Hubert Humphrey, American Vice-president 1965-69, Waverley, Minnesota, 1978.

The Independent Labour Party was formed under Keir Hardie, 1893.

Nasa selected its first women astronauts, 1978.



Colourful image: a portrait of the late Robert Maxwell among contents of his home, Headington Hill Hall, being auctioned by Sotheby's today. The items include a collection of cartoons and photographs of Maxwell

Dinners

Foundation for Science and Technology

Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held last night at the Royal Society. Mr John Guinness, Dr Dieter Helm and Professor Colin Robinson were the speakers. Among others present were:

The Earl of Selborne, Viscount Mersey, Lord Barber of Tewkesbury, Lord Bridges, Lord Butterfield, Lady Butterworth, Lord Chorley, Lord Ezra, Lord Flowers, Lord Harris of High Cross, Lord Haslam, Baroness Hooper, *Lord Howie of Troon, Lord Jenkin of* Roding, Lady Kennet, Lord Nelson of Stafford, Lord Renwick, Lord Shackleton, KG, Lord Taylor of Blackburn, Sir Geoffrey Pattie, MP, Sir Austin Bide, Sir Francis Graham-Smith, Sir Ronald Halstead, Sir Andrew Huxley, OM, Sir John Mason, Sir Richard Morris, Sir Ronald Oxburgh, Sir Lewis Robertson, Sir Giles Shaw, MP, Sir Trevor Skeet, MP, *and Sir Frederick Warner.*

Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs and High Officers of the Corporation of London and their ladies at dinner last night at Guildhall.

The other guests included Professor and Mrs Douglas McWilliams, Mrs Michael McWilliams, Rear-Admiral and Mrs Anthony Cooke and Mr and Mrs John Trotter.

Memorial services

Sir Francis Watson

The Queen the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Sir Geoffrey de Bellaigue at a service *of thanksgiving in remembrance* of Sir Francis Watson held yesterday at St Peter's, Eaton Square. The Rev Ashley Buck officiated and Viscount Lewisham read the lesson. Mr. Kenneth Snowman and Mr John Harris gave addresses. Among those present were:

Mr Cheng Huan, QC, Mr Simon Crowther, Mr and Mrs Colin Watson, Wing Commander Douglas Watson, Mrs F Watson, Mrs David Perkins, Mr Andrew Langmead, Mr Graham Wilde.

Mary Duchess of Roxburghe, Lady Reigate, Lady Freyberg, Lord Marlesford, Lady Abdy, the Hon Simon Sainsbury (representing the *Trustees of the Wallace Collection), the* Hon Mrs Brigid Westenra, Sir Brinsley and Lady Ford, Lady Fawcett, Sir Michael Stewart, Sir Nicholas Henderson, Lady Darwin, Sir John Titman and Sir Philip Goodhart (Sulgrave Manor board).

Miss Rosalind Savill (director, Wallace Collection), Mr John Hopkins (Society of Antiquaries), Mr Simon Jervis (Fitzwilliam Museum), Dr *Robert Oresko (Institute of Historical* Research, London University), Dr David Parrott (New College, Oxford), Mr Sebastian Minton (Shrewsbury School), Miss Margaret Medley (Oriental Ceramics Society), Mr John Murdoch (Victoria and Albert Museum) Mr John Whitehead (Furniture History Society), Mr C Macfarlane (Christie's), Mr John Partridge and Mr Clifford Henderson *(Partridge Fine Arts)*, Mr Richard Kingzett (Thomas Agnew and Sons), Mr Charles Truman (Asprey), Mr Geoffrey Munn (Wartski Jewellers), Mr Robin Simon (Apollo) and Mr *Andrew Saunders* (Cocked Hat Club).

Mrs Kenneth Snowman, Mrs John Harris, Mr Terence Hodgkinson, Mr Peter Hughes, Mr Stephen Duffy, Mr John Larkworthy, Mr John McKee, Mr Peter Thornton, Mr Z Zhang, Mrs Penelope de Laszlo, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs R Laird, Mr Jack Gold, Mr John Sandoe, Mrs Denys Sutton, Mr and Mrs Peter Ward-Jackson, Professor and Mrs F Haskell, *Mrs Jean Goit, Mr and Mrs Alan* Irvine, Mr J A Floyd, Mr Edmund Penning Rowsell, Mr Robert Cecil, Mr Anthony Hobson, Mr William Drummond, Mr and Mrs William Righter, Mr and Mrs Euan Graham, Mr Christopher Gibbs and Mr Cecil Gould.

Tatiana Lady Reid

A *memorial service* for Tatiana Lady Reid was held yesterday at the Church of St Andrew and St George, George Street, Edinburgh. The Rev Dr J. Fraser McLuskey officiated and gave an address. The Very Rev Protopresbyter Dr Columba Graham Flegg, Honorary Assistant Priest of the Orthodox Communities of St Andrew, led the prayers and Sir Alexander Reid, *son*, read the lesson.

Sir Giles Bullard

A memorial service for Sir Giles Bullard will be held in the Chapel of Balliol College, Oxford, on *Saturday, January 23 at 2.45pm.*

Latest wills

Mr William Roberts Wilson, of Northampton, farmer, left estate valued at £2,570,862 net.

He left half his estate to family legatees, and the remaining half as to personal legacies totalling £776,000, and £50,000 to such charity or charities as his trustees select and the *balance of such half equally between* Northampton General Hospital, and Manfield Hospital, Northampton.

Other estates (net, before tax) include:

Mr John William Barrett, of Chislehurst, Kent £782,302

Mr Thomas Reginald Paul Bird, of Quarndon, Derbyshire £970,325

Mr Wilfred Robins Crosher, of Brookmans Park, Hertfordshire £528,660

Mr William Munger Heynes, of Wolverton, Warwickshire £556,650

School announcements

Bedford School

The Easter Term begins today with 716 boys in the Upper School and 407 boys in the Preparatory School. Christopher G. Packe continues as Head of School. James S. Taylor is Captain of Hockey and James W. Wootton Captain of Boats. The Bedford School Choral Society concert will take in the Great Hall on Sunday, March 7, at 7.30pm.

Eton College

Eton College opens today (Wednesday, January 13) for the Lent Half. There are 1270 boys in the School. A.C. Roberts, KS, continues as Captain of the School, and A.C. Warr, OS, is Captain of the Oppidans.

The examination for Junior Scholarships will be held on February 6 and that for Sixth Form Scholarships on February 12 and 13. Business Week starts on February 14, and Long Leave will be from February 18 to 22.

There will be services of Confirmation in College Chapel, conducted by the Visitor, the Bishop of Lincoln, on March 13 and 14. School closes on March *24*.

St Margaret's School, Bushey, Hertfordshire

Spring Term has begun for all pupils at St Margaret's. The School Officers are: Head Girl — Sara Birtles, Deputy Head Girl — Louise Tant. The main events this term are the Entrance Examinations for Merry Hill House today, January 13 and for Lower School and Senior School on Tuesday, January 19.

The Biennial Service of Thanksgiving for the Clergy Orphan Corporation will take place in St. Albans Abbey on Tuesday, March 16, when the preacher will be the Most Rev and Right Hon Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York.

The School will, this term, be playing host to an exchange group of Japanese pupils from the Kamamoto Shinai Jogakuin School in Kyushu. Term ends on Friday, March 26 when the Ski Trip leaves for Val Cenis.

Caterham School

The Spring Term began on January 12. C. Iwuji continues as Senior Prefect and A.N. Ross is Captain of Hockey. The Old Caterhamians Day is Sunday, March 21. Carl Orff's *"Carmina Burana"* will be performed on Tuesday, March 23, and Term ends of Friday, March 26.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.J.C.M. Bailey and Miss M. Langer

The engagement is announced between Hugh, eldest son of Mr John Bailey, of Hampshire, and Mrs Diana Bailey, of Oxfordshire, and Martina, only daughter of the late Mr Jan Langer, of Prague and London, and of Dr Vera Langer, of Prague and London.

Lieutenant W.P.L. Biggs, RN, and Miss C.L. Bunton

The engagement is announced between William, son of Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Biggs, of Meonstoke, Hampshire, and Mrs Sayed Elshaer, of Cairo, Egypt, and Catharine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Bunton, of Bath, Avon.

Mr S.P. Clarke and Miss M.L. Whyte

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr P.J.H. Clarke and the late Mrs A.M. Clarke, of Dollar, Scotland, and Louise, daughter of Mrs L. McClure, of Cape Town, South Africa.

Dr The Hon R.J.I. Colville and Miss A.K. Dowson

The engagement is announced between *James, son of Viscount* Colville of Culross and Elizabeth Viscountess Colville of Culross of Suffolk, and Katharine, daughter of Sir Philip and Lady Dowson, of Norfolk.

Mr A.J. Daunt and Miss K.M. Steward

The engagement is announced between James, son of Sir Timothy and Lady Daunt, of London, and Katy, youngest daughter of the late Reverend Alan Steward and of Mrs Rosemary Steward, of Hertford Heath, Hertfordshire.

Mr J.J. Drew and Miss J.N. Kanter

The engagement is announced between Jason, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Drew, and Justine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ralph Kanter, both of London.

Mr S.R.R. Kirk and Mlle S.J.D.M.G. Lafontaine

The engagement is announced between Simon, second son of the late Sir Peter Kirk and of Lady Kirk, of Newton-upon-Rawcliffe, North Yorkshire, and Sylvie, daughter of M and Mme François Lafontaine, of Lasne, Belgium.

Mr J.H.J. McMullen and Miss L. Kenyon

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs John McMullen, of Westmill, Hertfordshire, and Leslie, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Craig Kenyon, of Long Beach, California.

Mr T.S. Weaver and Miss J.E. Godwin

The engagement is announced between Timothy Scott, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Weaver, of Seaford, East Sussex, and Joanna Elizabeth, *daughter of Mrs* David Harrold and stepdaughter of Mr David Harrold, of Cookham Dean, Berkshire.

Mr A.C.B. Peers and Miss H.C. Spice

The engagement is announced between Alex, son of Captain and Mrs Hugh Peers, of Bramdean, Hampshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Martyn Spice, of Alton, Hampshire.

Dr C.S. Perrott and Miss S. Lambourn

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of the late Mr Robert Perrott, and of Mrs Vera Perrott, of Farnham, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Lambourn, of Oxford.

Mr M.J. Quantrill and Miss A.M. Chambers

The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Ambassador and Mrs W. Quantrill, The British Embassy, Yaoundé, Cameroon, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Rodney Chambers, of Brompton, Gillingham, Kent.

Mr S.E. Roberts and Miss S.A. Jarrett

The engagement is announced between Stewart, son of Mr Edwin Roberts, of Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, and Mrs Alister Lawson, of Richmond, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Jarrett, of Great Horkesley, Essex.

Mr R.A. Sladdin and Miss J.H.A. Chalmers

The engagement is announced between Adrian, younger son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Sladdin, of Wetherby, Yorkshire, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Chalmers, of Ellon, Aberdeenshire.

Mr R.J. Mills and Miss S.J. Stewart

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Mills, of Henley-on-Thames, and *Sophie, youngest* daughter of Mr and Mrs Angus Stewart, of Stourpaine, Dorset.

Mr C.R.S. Williams and Miss R-M. Spoudeas

The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Mr and Mrs David Williams, of Yelsted, Kent, and Rose-Marie, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Basil Spoudeas, of Hale, Cheshire.

Mr C.J. Wills and Miss S.K. Evans-Lombe

The engagement is announced between Charles James, only son of Mr Julian Wills, of Pennyholme, Fadmoor, North Yorkshire, and Mme Jean-Louis Gaconne, of Paris, and Sophia Katharine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Evans-Lombe, of Marlingford Hall, Norwich.

Marriage

District Judge C.E. Freeman and Mrs A.J. Carter

The *marriage* took place on December 31, of District Judge Christopher Edward Freeman and Mrs Ann Judith Carter, both of Samlesbury Hall, Preston.

Reception

Association of British Chambers of Commerce

Mr Christopher Stewart-Smith, President of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, received the guests at a reception *held yesterday at the Goring Hotel* to welcome members of the National Chamber of Trade to the association.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TEL: 071 481 4000 FAX: 071 481 9313

Sow justice, and reap loyalty. Break up your fallow ground. It is time to seek the Lord, till he comes and rains justice on you.
Hosea 10 : 12

BIRTHS

ALDEN - On January 10th, to Sally (née Lawrence) and William, a daughter, Katharine Cicely Florence (Kitty).

BOSCHETTO - On January 9th *at the Humana Hospital* Wellington, to Ron and Linda, a daughter, Francesca Gabriella.

BUTLER - On January 11th 1993, in Omagh, to Sophie (née Rose) and Edward, a beautiful daughter, Augusta Rose: 6lbs 15oz.

CONSTANTINE - *On* January 9th, to Annie (née Cilliati) and David, a beautiful daughter Georgia Elizabeth, a sister for Olivia.

DIXEY - On 5th January, to Lindsay (Née Brown) and James, a son Thomas James. A brother for Antonia, Paul and Alexander.

GEORGALLIS - On January 12th at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Nadia and Sodos, a daughter, Michelle.

GYNGELL - On January 8th 1993, to Kate (née Crewdson) and Julian, a son, Alasdair Peter Richard.

ORR - *On 7th January*, in Frankfurt, to Melanie (née Buckingham) and Robert, a son, Nicholas Charles, a brother for William.

PRICE - On January 10th at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Charles and Denise, twin sons, Alexander Myer and Henry Charles.

TEAKLE - On January 9th, in Connecticut, to Juliet and Simon, a daughter.

THOMSON - On December 22nd 1992, at Canossa Hospital, Hong Kong, to Mary (née Bee Lay) and James Smith, a son, Alasdair Hamill *(7lbs 11oz)*.

ZAPH - On Friday January 8th, to Lynda and Andrew, a daughter, Andrea Elizabeth, at *Heatherwood Hospital*, Ascot.

MARRIAGES

KELLY:CECIL-SMITH - On 9th January 1993 at St Mary's Parish Church, Wanstead, London. Miles Colville, son of Mr & Mrs J.C. Kelly of Sotogrande, Cadiz, Spain, to Fiona, daughter of Mr & Mrs R. Cecil-Smith of Wanstead, London.

DEATHS

ASHBROOKE - On Monday January 11th 1993, peacefully at home in Jersey, Philip Biden Derwent, beloved husband of Veronica and much loved father of Auberon and Sophy. Funeral at Rozel Manor Chapel, Jersey, on Monday January *18th at 2 o'clock. Flowers to* Pitcher and Le Quesne, Funeral Directors, Jersey, or donations if preferred to Jersey Hospice Care, c/o Mr Ian Richardson, Reads & Co., Union Street, St Helier, Jersey.

BENHAM - On January 11th, at Broadlands Nursing *Home, Cheam, Surrey*, Ronald, R.B.A., N.E.A.C., aged 77, dearly loved husband of Jill. Funeral Service at North East Surrey Crematorium, Lower Morden Lane, Morden, Surrey, on Monday January 18th at 4 pm. Contributions to the Artists General Benevolent Institution, Burlington House, London W1 0DJ or cut flowers to Truelove & Son, 118 Carshalton Road, Sutton, Surrey, by 2 pm January 18th.

BENSON - On January 8th, peacefully at Kings Lynn Hospital, Florence Mary (Molly). Beloved wife of the late Con Benson and a dearly loved mother and grandmother. Funeral Service at Mintlyn Crematorium, Kings Lynn on Friday January 15th at *10.30 a.m. Family flowers* only please. Donations if desired to RSPB, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2BR.

BLOWER - On January 8th in Guernsey, Emily Grace Blower in her 97th year, after a long illness bravely borne. Dearly loved mother of John and Richard and grandmother of Nigel, Paul, Mark, Rosanne and Astrid.

BRUCE LOCKHART - On January 8th, in his 94th year, Rupert, singer and *actor, last surviving son of* the late Robert Bruce Lockhart of Eagle House, Sandhurst. Requiem Mass at the Carmelite Church, Kensington Church Street, London, on Wednesday 20th January at 11 am, followed by cremation at Mortlake Crematorium. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon Ltd., 49 *Marloes Road, London W8.*

CAMPBELL - Dr Bruce (ornithologist, writer and broadcaster) peacefully in his *sleep after a long illness on* 9th January. Husband of Margaret and father of David, Robert and Rona. Funeral at Wootton Church (near Woodstock) on Friday 15th January at 11am. No flowers *please* by request, but donations if desired to BBONT (Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire Naturalists Trust), 3 Church Cowley Road, Oxford.

CODRINGTON - On 8th January 1993, peacefully at home. Philippa Christine, *widow of Professor K de B* Codrington. Greatly missed by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral Service will take place at Charing Crematorium on Friday 15th January at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, to The Woodland Trust, Autumn Park, Grantham, Lincs. NG31 6LL.

GARRARD - On January 7th 1993, at Battle Hospital, Reading, Lancelot Austin Garrard, LL.D., M.A., B.D., Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Theology at Emerson College, Boston, formerly Principal of Manchester College, Oxford. Father of Tony and Rodney, father-in-law of Sheila and Renate, grandfather of Christopher, Keith, Alexander, Neil, Pascal, Colin and Natalie. Funeral Service *at Oxford* Crematorium on Tuesday January 19th at 2 pm. Donations to 'Send a Child to Hucklow' or flowers c/o Edward Carter, 107 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 1QS. Enquiries: (0235) 528293.

GODFREY - On January 11th 1993, Graham Eric, aged 55 years. So very much loved *husband of Annette and* father of Amanda and Justin. Also wonderful son and grandfather. Funeral Service at Chichester Crematorium on Tuesday January 19th at *12.30 pm. Family flowers* only. Donations if desired to King Edward VII Hospital, enquiries to G.M. Luff & Partners, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Surrey.

GRAHAM - On 11th January 1993, Lady Annie Elizabeth Newport (Nan), aged 88, mercifully and peacefully in hospital after bearing with characteristic courage a short final incurable illness. Nan was the devoted wife and partner of Sir Patrick Graham, retired High Court Judge, mother of Tony, Rob, Bill and Dan and had twelve grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Cremation private, followed by Thanksgiving Service at Christchurch, Radlett, at 12 noon Monday 18th January. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu in favour of Imperial Cancer Research *Fund to be sent c/o Chas. A.* Nethercott & Son Ltd., 20 Aldenham Road, Radlett, Herts. WD7 8AX.

HARBORD-HAMOND - On *January 10th, at Norfolk and* Norwich Hospital, as the result of a tragic accident, The Honourable Penelope Mary, much loved sister, sister-in-law and aunt. Private cremation Tuesday January 19th followed by Service of Remembrance at Southrepps Church, near Cromer 3pm. Family flowers only, donations *if desired to* Injured Jockeys Fund.

HAWTHORN - Dr. Pamela Jean. See Smorzewski.

HAYNE - On January 9th 1993, peacefully, Gillian, widow of John, adored mother of Caroline, Christopher and Robert and *loving* grandmother of Benjamin and Julia. Private cremation followed by Service of Thanksgiving at All Saints Church, Feering on Tuesday January 19th at 2.30pm. No flowers, any donations to Myotonic Dystrophy Support Group, 175A Carlton Hill, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 1GZ.

HOLDSWORTH - On Saturday January 9th, in hospital, His Honour Albert Edward Holdsworth, QC, *husband* of Brianne and father of Dick, Mark and Dominic. Funeral at St Agatha's, Coates, West Sussex, on Thursday January 14th at 11.30 am. Flowers to W. Bryder & Sons, Tillington (Petworth 42174) or donations to Caius College Mission, Harroway Road, Battersea, SW11 (071-*228 6682*).

HOLMES - On January 8th, in Bristol, Margaret Ann Patricia, widow of Capt. John Holmes, R.N., mother of Charlotte, Josephine and Richard. Private cremation. Memorial Service at 2 pm on Saturday 13th February at Chelsea Old Church.

HUMPHRYES - *On* January 10th, Anthony Guy Humphryes D.F.C., beloved *husband of Ann and dear* father of Adam and Simon. Cremation private. Service of thanksgiving at Alresford Parish Church on Thursday January 28th at 2.30pm. Donations if desired to R.A.F. Benevolent Fund c/o JNO Steel & Son, Chesil House, Winchester.

KAHLE - Fr. William Kahle. On January 10th 1993, peacefully in hospital. For many years a Priest of Westminster Cathedral. Reception of body Westminster Cathedral 4.45 pm Monday 18th. Requiem Mass Tuesday 19th, 11 am, followed by burial at St. John Baptist Tidebrook, Wadhurst, Sussex. If desired donations to Cardinal Hume's Centre (Homeless).

LONGMORE - On 9th January in Tavira, Portugal, Noel, beloved brother of Veronica Mahoney, died suddenly aged 61 years. He had lived in Seville for many years and will be sadly missed by his many friends and his family. For further information please reply to Box No 0569.

MATHEWS - Rosemund Agnes, died suddenly on the 6th January 1993, aged 83 years. *Funeral service* on Friday the 15th January at 5.45pm at St Mary And All Saints, Beaconsfield Old Town, followed by a Committal Service at The Chilterns Crematorium, Amersham. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to the Abbeyfield Home c/o Arnold Funeral Service, 911 London Road, Loudwater, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP10 9TF

MERVYN - On January 8th 1993, peacefully in hospital, Maureen Gregory, aged 84, daughter of the late Canon George Gore Mervyn of St Patrick's, Ballymacarrett, Belfast. Funeral Service on Thursday January 21st at St Augustine's Church, *Highgate at 1 pm*, followed by committal at Highgate Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations to Cats Protection League, 135 Junction Road, N19 5PX.

MOULE - On January 8th *1993*, suddenly, Gerard Elliot (Gerry) aged 77 years of Wattisfield, Suffolk. Much loved husband of Jo, loving father of Douglas and Isobel, grandfather of Dinah, Rebecca, Philip, Rachel, Peter, Ben, Adam and Luke. Funeral Service at St Margaret's Church, Wattisfield, on Saturday January 16th at 11.30 am. All are welcome. Family flowers only, donations to St Margaret's Church may be sent c/o Rackhams Funeral Service, Stanley Road, Diss, Norfolk.

PORTLOCK - On January 6th 1993, at home in London, Angela May, widow of Rear Admiral Ronald Ethridge Portlock C.B., O.B.E., D.L. and *mother of* Lavender Beard. Funeral Service, Putney Vale Crematorium, Thursday January 21st at 11.30 am. All flowers and enquiries please to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, London W8 6LA, tel: (071) 937-0757

RADFORD - On January 9th 1993 at the Royal Victoria Hospital Edinburgh at the age of 99 years. William Frederick George, M.C.L.R.C.P. and S. Beloved husband of the late Catharine Kerr. Last surviving member of the family of the George and Sarah Radford of Leith.

REEVE - Lieutenant Colonel, Grenadier Guards Rtd, O.B.E., D.L., William Reeve of Leadenham peacefully on January 11th, beloved husband of the late Merial, father of John, Christopher and Peter, and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Swithun's Church, Leadenham on Saturday January 16th at 2pm, followed by burial. No flowers, but donations if desired for St Swithun's Church Organ Fund may be directed to David Holland & Son Funeral Directors, London Road, Grantham.

SACKS - On Monday January 11th, peacefully in his sleep at home after a long struggle bravely borne, Dr. David Sacks, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., A.F.O.M. Beloved husband of Lili, dearest father to Elizabeth, Caroline and Jonathan, devoted grandfather to Eugenie, Natalie, Zoe, Juliet, Harry and Sammy. Rock and protector to all his family, patients and friends *worldwide. Funeral* on Thursday January 14th at 2pm at Willesden United Jewish Cemetery, Beaconsfield Road, NW10. Memorial Service to be announced soon.

SMITH - On 11th January, peacefully in her sleep, Doris *Winifred. Much loved wife of* Richard and mother of Andrew and Deborah, mother-in-law of Nigel and loving grandmother of Kate. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Cremation at St Marylebone Crematorium on Tuesday January 19th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only but donations, if wished, to Edenhall, Marie Curie Centre, c/o J.H. Kenyon, 6 Woodhouse Road, London N12 0RG.

SMORZEWSKI - On January 8th 1993, peacefully in Nottingham after a long illness, Pamela Jean, aged 57, beloved wife of the late George, loving mother of Alex and dear sister of Joy Steele. (Dr. P.J. Hawthorn formerly of Manchester *University and first Director* of the Nursing Studies Unit, Queens Medical Centre, University of Nottingham 1981-88). Thanksgiving Service at St Giles Church, West Bridgford, on Friday January 15th at 1.45 pm. No flowers please but donations if desired to St Ann's Hospice, Cheadle Appeals Office, 90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2GP. Any correspondence to Mrs Joy Steele, c/o A.W. Lymn, Robin Hood House, Robin Hood Street, Nottingham NG3 1GF.

SWINGLER - On January 9th 1993, in hospital at Montpellier after a long and grave struggle against congestive heart failure, Herta (née Jaeger), loving and beloved wife of Bryan, mother of Barbara, Angelika and Carolyn, grandmother of Nicole, Paul, Andreas, Patricia, Patrick and Sophie, and great-grandmother of Maximilien and Sophie. Funeral Mass shall be held at *mid-day on 22nd January at* St John the Baptist Church, Lowick, Northumberland.

TAYLOR - On 10th January 1993, at a nursing home at Seaford, peacefully, John Arthur, aged 77 years. The loved and devoted husband of Eileen and father of Quentin and Paul, *proud* grandfather of four. Funeral Friday 22nd January, Service Tunbridge Wells Crematorium 10.30 am.

TILLEY - On January 10th 1993, after a long illness in hospital, William Henry, aged 71 years. Private family cremation on Wednesday January 20th at 1 pm. No flowers *but* donations, if desired, to the charity D.E. Bower Bequest c/o 84 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8EJ. A Memorial Service will be arranged at a later date.

TOZER - On January 10th, peacefully at home, Gordon, beloved husband of Germaine and brother of Pauline. Requiem Mass, Friday January 15th at 11am, The Sacred Heart Church, London Road, Sunningdale. No flowers, donations to The Order of St John, Woodley, Reading, Berks.

van den BERGH - On 8th January, in Oakhaven Hospice, Lymington, Hants, Frank Asquith, loving husband of Heather (previously Lewis), father of Lucy and brother of Edward, *peacefully after a long illness* tenaciously fought. Funeral at 3pm on Tuesday 19th January at the Beckenham Crematorium. Enquiries to Francis Chappell 081 460 3426. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, for account of the Hospice to Diamond & Son, Funeral Directors, 9-11, Lower Buckland Road, Lymington, Hants. SO41 9DN.

VAUGHAN - Janet Maria Vaughan died peacefully on January 9th 1993 at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford. A funeral service will be held at the Oxford Crematorium on Monday January 18th at 3.15 pm with a reception at around 4 pm in Wolfson College. Memorial Service to be held later. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, PO Box 177, Chesterfield, S41 7TQ.

WHYTE - Lilian Sophia on January 10th at home, much loved mother of Mary-Jane, grandmother of Leonie, and sister to Elizabeth and Irene. Funeral service Monday 18th January at 3pm at Harlow crematorium Essex. flowers/enquiries to Ballards, 20 Upper Tachbrook Street, London SW1. Tel: 071 834 3281

WYLIE - On January 10th, peacefully in hospital, Flora much loved wife of Verner and mother of Joanna, Emma, Harriet, Kate and Adam. Service of thanksgiving at 3pm on *Friday 15th January at St* Giles Church, Shermanbury

LEGAL NOTICES

ALLAN H WILLIAMS LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that it is my intention to declare a first dividend to unsecured non-preferential creditors of the above-named company. Creditors who have not yet done so, are required, on or before 8 February 1993, to send their proof of debts to the undersigned, A P Peters, of Touche Ross & Co., 5th Floor, Colmore Gate, 2 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2BN, the Liquidator of the company and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the Liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt by the date specified will be excluded from the dividend.
8 January 1993
A P Peters, Liquidator.

Armitage Walker Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
pursuant to Section 48(2) of the INSOLVENCY ACT 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF at 11:00 am on 21 January 1993 for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are entitled to vote if:-
They have delivered to us at 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, no later than 12.00 hours on 20 January 1993 written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and There has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Dated 6th January 1993
L.A. Manning
Joint Administrative Receiver

East Marcia Developments Limited
Registered number: 2015611. Nature of business: [illegible]. Trade classification: 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 21 December 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Westpac Banking Corporation. Joint Administrative Receivers: A D Kennington and J C Heath (office holder nos 5658 and 5060) of Hallam Watts Insolvency Services 23 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP.

EMBASSY LITHO COMPANY LTD.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London, W2 6LF, on Monday, the 25th day of January 1993 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated the 5th day of January 1993
D. POULTON, Director.

EUROSTYLE HOME IMPROVEMENTS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Halpern Woolf & Partners, Halpern House, 301-305, Euston Road, London, NW1 3SS on Wednesday 20th January 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98(2) of the Act lists of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Halpern Woolf & Partners, Insolvency Practitioners, Halpern House, 301-305, Euston Road, London, NW1 3SS on the two business days falling next before the day of the Meeting.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
DATED this 30th day of December 1992
D.M. Brewer, Chairman

NOTICE OF S98 MEETING OF CREDITORS
QUINCEMOOR LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
Principal Trading Address: Unit 2, Waltham Park Way, London E17.
Company Number: 01767727
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2NP on 4 February 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
ROGER ARTHUR POWDRILL of Touche Ross & Co., of P O Box 810, Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2NP will provide creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated: 11 January 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
K.L. Britton, Director.

REPROTO DISPLAY CO. LTD
(IN LIQUIDATION)
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Keith David Goodman, FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 8th January 1993.
Dated this 8th day of January, 1993
Keith David Goodman, FCA, Liquidator, Leonard Curtis & Co., Chartered Accountants, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF.

LEGAL NOTICES

FLETCHER BEAUFORT LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
Pursuant to Section 48(2) of the INSOLVENCY ACT 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at Buchler Phillips & Co., 4th Floor, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF on Friday 22nd January 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committees by or under the Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are entitled to vote if:-
They have delivered to us at 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, no later than 12.00 hours on 21st January 1993 written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and There has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Dated 12th January 1993
D J Buchler,
Administrative Receiver

SECTION 293 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
ANTHONY EDWARD MATTHEWS, IN BANKRUPTCY
TAKE NOTICE THAT I, Nigel John Hamilton-Smith of Morton Thornton & Co., Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD was appointed Trustee of Anthony Edward Matthews on 10 November 1992 following a meeting of creditors held on 4 November 1992.
DATED this 8th day of January 1993
N J Hamilton-Smith, Trustee

The Insolvency Act 1986
PHOTOTROPIC LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Brian Reginald Anthony Callaghan of Chantrey Vellacott, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London WC1B 5LF, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by a resolution of the company's members and creditors on 31st December 1992.
Dated this 8th day of January 1993
B.R. Callaghan, Liquidator.

LEGAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

H.M. LAND REGISTRY
LOST CERTIFICATES
It is proposed to issue a new Certificate to replace the one described below that is stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing the missing certificate or objecting to the issue of a new one should at once notify H.M. Land Registry, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PH.
CHARGE CERTIFICATE, LEASEHOLD TITLE NGL630044 PROPERTY 11 QUEEN STREET, WESTMINSTER. PROPRIETOR: LANGHAVEN HOLDINGS PLC of 59 SOUTH STREET W1Y 5PD. PROPRIETOR OF CHARGE: THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND PLC of 9 Pall Mall, London SW1 5LX.

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OBITUARIES

HELEN KROGER

Helen Kroger, the spy who together with her husband Peter transmitted British naval secrets to the Soviet Union, and whose exchange for Gerald Brooke, the British lecturer imprisoned for smuggling anti-Soviet propaganda, caused a political storm in 1969, died in Moscow in late December aged 79.



Goodbye to all that: the Krogers on their way to Warsaw in 1969

TOGETHER with her husband Peter, Helen Kroger was a central figure in the Portland spy case of 1961, and half of one of the most successful partnerships in espionage history. When details of the spy ring emerged, two Admiralty employees, Henry Houghton and Ethel Gee, were found to have leaked naval documents to the Krogers, some concerning Britain's first nuclear submarine, *Dreadnought*. The Russians, lagging far behind in underwater warfare at that time, had decided to concentrate their efforts on the highly secret Underwater Establishment, at Portland, Dorset. They were to make considerable use of the information they received from the Krogers, and progress in developing new anti-submarine weapons was rapid from then on.

Helen and Peter Kroger were sentenced to 20 years each for their part in the spy ring. Their sentences were lighter than that of their colleague and fellow professional spy, Gordon Lonsdale, but Helen was to serve only eight years of hers. Her release, together with that of her husband, came after that of Lonsdale and before that of the "amateur spies" Houghton and Gee.

Helen Joyce Kroger was born in America where she was known as Lona Petka, the daughter of a Polish immigrant. She became a librarian and later married Kroger, then known as Morris Cohen, a popular teacher with known communist sympathies. Together with her husband, she became part of the New York spy ring which included Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and Colonel Rudolph Abel. Shortly before their colleagues' arrests, the Cohens disappeared and were listed as missing persons by the FBI.

They covered their tracks with a series of forged passports through Canada, Austria, New Zealand and Japan, were rebriefed by the KGB and eventually resettled at 45 Cranley Drive, Ruislip, Middlesex, where they posed as New Zealanders. That they managed to pull off this absurdity says something for the parochial innocence of Ruislip in the fifties. Both had heavy Bronx accents. "It would have been a shame to waste them after all those years of training", explained an ex-KGB man, 20 years later, "especially as they were such excellent agents."

Helen Kroger and her husband settled into suburbia posing as antiquarian booksellers. Helen cut an exotic figure with her loud, boisterous manner and her habit of wearing trousers. With no children herself, and having come from a family of ten, she made friends with the local children.

But nothing about the charming Kroger household was as it seemed. After their arrest, a Ronson cigarette lighter was found to hold codes, an Ever Ready battery a KGB expense sheet and a tin of talcum powder was in fact a microdot reader. The radio transmitter used to send information to Russia was not unearthed until 1977 by the new owner, while digging in the garden, but in Helen Kroger's handbag was enough damning evidence to convict her — a film of microdots containing details of operations at Portland's naval research station.

Once in prison, the Krogers set about preparing the way for their release. Though American-born, they applied for Polish citizenship. Mrs Kroger was not too enthusiastic about returning to Poland, but she clearly had little alternative if she wished to be released prematurely. In Holloway, suffering from a nervous condition, she became involved in fights.

Her husband ensured that her illness was leaked to friends in his letters: "She writes me that she doesn't know if she will last out the year," he wrote.

Meanwhile the Russians, after the successful exchange of Greville Wynne for Gordon Lonsdale, made approaches to Britain. They offered to exchange the Krogers for Gerald Brooke, a British lecturer imprisoned by the Russians for distributing subversive literature in the USSR. They also started to press claims that the Krogers were Polish (although during and after the trial no attempt had been made by the Polish embassy either to defend them or to gain consular access to them) and threatened to reindict Brooke on further charges as soon as his five-year sentence had been served.

In 1969 the then foreign secretary, Michael Stewart, announced that a package deal had been agreed in which the Krogers were to be allowed to return to Poland in exchange for Brooke. His announcement provoked considerable criticism: some argued that the Russians would be encouraged to arrest further British tourists arbitrarily; others maintained that the Krogers, after only eight years, retained a definite espionage value for the KGB; while still more considered their release through the use of the Queen's Prerogative "wholly illegal". In 1969, however, in a blaze of publicity, the Krogers left London.

Their reception in Warsaw was a low-key affair and nothing was heard of them for some time, but letters to friends in London revealed the truth. Unable to cope with freedom, the couple put themselves into the hands of a series of medics and sanatoria, suffering from "nervous exhaustion" and a range of minor ailments.

In 1972 they disappeared into Russia, a country neither had seen before, and set up home in a KGB flat in Moscow. Years passed, and many people assumed they had died. But then, in 1991, a *Cutting Edge* documentary film crew, working for Channel 4 flew out to interview them.

Strange Neighbours showed a sprightly, animated 77-year old Helen, in contrast to her rather more listless husband, bearing up cheerfully under the strain of ill health. Both, of course, had endured intense isolation since leaving England. They had not seen their families for 40 years and in place of the usual domestic mementoes, the walls of their bedroom were hung with photographs of the KGB hierarchy. Asked if she felt trapped, Helen said "I feel perfectly free". Even with the communist system she had done so much to bolster crumbling around her, she had no regrets. Her work, she reasoned, had been inspired by peaceful motives: if both sides were equally well-armed, the possibility of another war became more remote. "I felt I was protecting them" she said of her old neighbours in Ruislip.

She is survived by her husband, now aged 82.

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR DENIS BARNETT

Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Barnett, GCB, CBE, DFC, who as Commander Allied Air Task Force, Near East, was in overall command of the British and French air forces during the Suez campaign of 1956, died on December 31 aged 86. He was born in Dunedin, New Zealand, on February 11, 1906.

AMID the general atmosphere of debacle which surrounded the Anglo-French attempt to crush Egypt in the autumn of 1956 Denis Barnett's handling of the air component of the attack stands out in pleasant contrast. A bomber man all his life, he was accustomed to organising and handling large forces. And the political misjudgments which inspired the operation cannot detract from the fact that he executed his aim of neutralising Egyptian air power with a minimum of civilian casualties, in a highly economical manner.

He was lucky in having effective instruments at his disposal in the Canberra and Valiant jet bombers. The Canberra in particular, Britain's first jet bomber and one of the best designs ever to fly with the Royal Air Force, was ideal for both high and low level attacks (so good was the airframe that an adapted version saw prolonged service as a USAF spy plane).

It had not always been Barnett's fortune to operate with such up to date equipment. He had had grim experiences of flying hopelessly inadequate aircraft in the early days of the second world war and in the counter-insurgency operations over Malaya in the 1950s.

A New Zealander, he had come to Britain to take a degree at Cambridge in the 1920s. He learnt to fly with the university air squadron and was commissioned into the RAF reserve of officers. In his early days he had periods as an instructor and had some experience of what was then the fledgling art of army co-operation. But from the latter 1930s onwards he was committed to bombers and in 1937 got his first command — of a squadron of antiquated biplane Vickers Vincents in Iraq.

Bomber Command entered the second world war, still with an inventory of perilously obsolete aircraft, many of which were merely death traps for their crews and had little chance of inflicting much damage on the enemy. After the fall of France, Barnett was given command of No 40 squadron of Blenheims and ordered to attack German shipping in the Channel ports, where amphibious forces were being assembled for an invasion of Britain. Less publicised than the more glamorous sorties of Fighter Command, these raids nevertheless called for just as much skill and courage. Lacking any real punch in terms of bomb load,



lightly armed and with a low top speed that made it an easy prey for fighters, the Blenheim and its crews were faced with a difficult as well as dangerous task. Nevertheless Barnett and his crews stuck to it in a series of raids whose nuisance value — even if material destruction was not great — was enough to make life uncomfortable for the assembling enemy. His leadership in these operations earned Barnett the DFC.

Later in the war Barnett went on to command bomber stations and a bomber group, subsequently occupying posts in the higher directorate of bomber operations. After periods in India and Pakistan in the latter 1940s, he was confronted, as director of operations at the Air Ministry, with the Malayan emergency of the early 1950s. Once again he found himself having to organise bombing operations with an aircraft (personified in this case by the piston-engined Avro Lincoln) which would have been more at home in the previous aviation era. Certainly the lumbering four-engined bomber was not able to make much impact against guerrillas hiding in thick jungle.

Yet only a few years on, the Suez crisis presented a very different picture. Barnett now had an all-jet bomber force at his disposal and was able to deploy it rapidly in Cyprus and Malta. When the Anglo-French offensive opened on October 31, 1956, Valiants and Canberras, together with the Navy's carrier-borne aircraft struck at the Egyptian air force on the ground, virtually annihilating it within 48 hours. This paved the way for the invasion which went ahead mercifully untroubled by air attack. Having, as they felt, done so well, Barnett and his airmen were naturally disappointed to be called off when American pressure brought the Anglo-French action to an end on November 6. Still, the result, in terms of the use of air power, was a tribute to Barnett's ability to organise, and to his profound appreciation, garnered from long experience, of the precise capabilities of the aircraft types at his disposal.

Thereafter his career flourished. He commanded the RAF staff college at Bracknell, 1956; was AOC-in-C Transport Command, 1959-62; and AOC-in-C Near East, 1962-64. In this, his last RAF job, he was responsible for British forces in Cyprus and the administration of the Sovereign Base Areas. In retirement he was, from 1965 to 1972, member for Weapons Research and Development, Atomic Energy Commission.

Barnett was a quiet, modest man, whose leadership was of a thoughtful rather than fiery nature. But his modesty concealed great personal bravery and a capacity for the type of tactical analysis which tends to save lives at the "sharp" end of operations.

He leaves his widow, Pamela, and a son and two daughters.

CLIFTON WHITE

Clifton White, a Republican party organiser and political consultant who masterminded the nomination of Barry Goldwater as presidential candidate in 1964, died in Greenwich, Connecticut, on January 9 aged 74. He was born in Leonardsville, New York.

CLIFTON White was known as "the politician's politician," an accolade — if that is what it was — bestowed on him by Theodore H. White (no relation), in his book *The Making of the President*. Though never elected to public office himself, having failed in his only attempt to run for Congress in 1946, White was never far from the centre of political action. In various capacities he worked for the election campaigns of Presidents Eisenhower, Nixon, Ford and Reagan.

But White's most lasting recognition came from his efforts on behalf of a man who never did become president: Barry Goldwater. The Goldwater movement had started in 1961, when White called a group of fellow conservatives to a secret meeting at a Chicago motel and convinced them to seek ideological control of the Republican party, with Senator Goldwater as their standard-bearer.

Goldwater himself was initially reluctant, but White refused to take no for an answer and worked quietly for the next two years to plot an elaborate strategy and organise a national network of volunteers. In 1963 he mounted a "draft Goldwater" campaign, staging a Fourth of July rally in Washington that drew nearly 7,000 supporters. Goldwater relented, announced his candidature, and won a resounding first-ballot victory at the Republican National Convention of 1964. It was, wrote Theodore H. White, "a new thing in American conventions: not a meeting, not a clash, but a coup d'etat".

The convention had been brilliantly organised, but Clifton White failed to gain his hoped-for reward — the national chairmanship of the Republican party. Instead, he was shunted aside by Goldwater aides and relegated to a minor role in the campaign. It was a decision they may have regretted when Goldwater lost in a landslide defeat to President Lyndon Johnson.

With his bow tie and tweed jacket, White was a familiar figure at Republican conventions.

He is survived by his wife Gladys, a son, and a daughter.

Selma Light

SELMA Light, a pioneer in the international movement on behalf of Soviet Jews, died in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on January 2 aged 77.

She was a close associate of the prominent Soviet dissidents Andrei Sakharov, Yelena Bonner and Natan Sharansky and was instrumental in obtaining permission for the Soviet ballet dancers Valery and Galina Panov to emigrate to Israel in 1974.

Light was active in the 1960s civil rights movement in America and in 1967, while living in San Francisco, she co-founded the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews. She travelled to the Soviet Union to meet dissidents in 1968 and 1975, and returned last year to preside at the opening of the Harold Light Emigration Center in St Petersburg. She is survived by a son.

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CROAT AND SERB KING'S VISIT TO ZAGREB POPULAR WELCOME

From Our Special Correspondent

BELGRADE, Jan 12.

King Alexander and Queen Marie, with their Court, returned last night to Belgrade after a month's stay at Zagreb. This is the first time in the history of Yugoslavia that the Court has been transferred to the Croat capital for more than a few days, the King's earlier visits having been regrettably few and far between.

The King doubtless had excellent reasons for making a spectacular conciliatory gesture towards his Croat subjects at the present time. He himself has contributed largely to the movement for Balkan pacification which is expected to assume some concrete form within the next few weeks. To have received King Boris of Bulgaria on a State visit in Bulgaria after two preliminary meetings and then still to have ignored Croatia would have run contrary to King Alexander's best designs. The Court, accordingly, was transferred to Zagreb immediately after King Boris left. M. Maximos, the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, paid an official visit to the King and his Foreign Minister in Zagreb just before Christmas. He was the first Cabinet Minister of a foreign country to have been received there.

The King resided in the Palace presented to him by the people of Zagreb some years ago, and walked freely in the streets, exchanging greetings with the passers-by. He gave 250,000 dinars from his privy purse to the local poor, took an active part in reviving the Croat Union of Cooperative Societies, with a membership of 60,000 heads of families, which had fallen on evil days, and awarded many honours and decorations. He received scores of Croat deputations from all parts, and gave orders that M. Matchek, the Croat Opposition Leader, should be released from prison for four days in order to attend his father's funeral.

There were 60,000 people in the streets to greet the King and Queen when they arrived, and their welcome is described as having been more demonstrative than any that would be given in Belgrade. Three Croat conspirators, who had been observed in Belgrade during the visit of King Boris and were trapped in a house in Zagreb where they had secreted weapons and bombs, shot one police officer dead and wounded another before they could be arrested. Apart from this, there was no untoward incident.

Thanks largely to the King's own initiative and direct personal touch, the visit has infused greater cordiality and confidence into his relations with his Croat subjects. It is now hoped that in the more favourable atmosphere thus created an attempt will soon be made to resolve some of the fundamental political differences between the Croat Opposition and the Belgrade Government.

Talk of genuine provincial autonomy is once more in the air, and the King, with whom rests the final responsibility in this as in all matters, is believed not to be unsympathetic.

ON THIS DAY

January 13 1934

A king of Yugoslavia? Yes, Alexander, who occupied an uneasy throne after the first world war and was assassinated on a state visit to France in 1934. Alexander had been commander-in-chief of the Serbian army in the first world war.

NEWS

Major against press freedom laws

■ Tough new laws to curb the freedom of the press appeared to be doomed after the disclosure that the Princess of Wales used national newspapers to put forward her side of her troubled marriage.

John Major, who almost certainly knew of the princess's role in the press coverage, let it be known that he was against setting up a statutory press complaints tribunal headed by a judge and empowered to levy heavy fines..... **Pages 1, 2, 3**

America poised for action in Iraq

America appeared poised for punitive action against Iraq if Baghdad failed to remove anti-aircraft missiles from northern Iraq. Scorning strong hints from Washington of military action, Iraq for the third consecutive day sent workmen into Kuwait to retrieve equipment from a base..... **Pages 1, 11**

Serb climbdown

Bosnian Serbs, the main stumbling block to a negotiated agreement on the future of Bosnia, bowed to international pressure and agreed to accept a UN treaty..... **Pages 1, 13**

BA enquiry

British airways management began an enquiry aimed at weeding out those considered responsible for the airline's most damaging and costly public relations disaster when, in the High Court, it was claimed that staff had carried out an aggressive "switch-selling" drive to lure Virgin passengers..... **Page 1**

Snow rescue

Commandos, helicopters, the RAF mountain rescue team and dozens of police were called out to rescue over 2,000 drivers trapped in their vehicles by wind and driving snow which brought chaos to Scotland..... **Page 1**

'Assassination' rifle

A Kalashnikov assault rifle found in a huge arms cache belonging to the alleged IRA bomber James Canning was used in the attempted assassination of former Gibraltar governor Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Terry, the Central Criminal Court was told..... **Page 5**

Canoe ordeal

Two British brothers have arrived in Jamaica exhausted and starving after sharks attacked and damaged their canoe in the Caribbean, forcing them to abandon an attempt to become the first people to paddle from Europe to America..... **Page 7**

No rail U-turn

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, reiterated his commitment to press ahead with rail privatisation during a Labour initiated debate in the Commons. He said opponents were "totally wrong" to claim that the government had undertaken a U-turn..... **Page 10**

Nureyev funeral

Rudolf Nureyev was buried in Paris after a ceremony at the Paris opera, the scene of his first performance in the West after he defected..... **Page 13**

Graduate hope

The graduate jobs market is beginning to show signs of recovery. Although large firms are pulling out of the "milk round" of campus visits, small companies are entering the market..... **Page 8**

Driven out

Tens of thousands of Muslims and Hindus are now homeless after a week of rioting in Bombay. Victoria Terminus, the huge gothic central railway station, was crammed with Muslims hoping to escape north. **Page 12**

Forward planning

With three years and 10 months until the next presidential election, the battle for the Republican party's soul is already under way..... **Page 11**

Alert over playground porn

■ Concern that children are being exposed to hard-core pornography through home computers has prompted an investigation by the British Computer Society. Greater Manchester police recently discovered thousands of copies of programs depicting acts ranging from bestiality and gay sex to child abuse and rape..... **Page 8**



Broken hope: the bow of the *Braer* sinks as the tanker is broken into three pieces after a night of fierce storms. **Pages 1, 7**

Jobs cuts: Guinness is to spend £125 million on cutbacks in Scotland and Spain and invest £100 million on the bottling and packaging of Scotch. Around 700 jobs will go in Scotland..... **Page 21**

Maxwell: Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, is to invite Sir John Cuckney, the chairman of Royal Insurance to mediate in efforts to track down and distribute the money missing from the Maxwell pension fund..... **Page 21**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 suffered its sixth day of losses and closed 15.5 down at 2757.9. The pound's trade-weighted index fell from 82.2 to 81.8 and was down from DM2.5327 to DM2.5188 and from $1.5557 to $1.5432 **Page 24**

Golf: The PGA European Tour, which starts tomorrow with the Madeira Island Open, will be the longest and most valuable in its history. It spans a total of 43 tournaments and will offer £24.75 million in prize-money between now and December..... **Page 36**

Football: The career of Mark Wright, the England international defender who led Liverpool to the FA Cup last season, has reached the crossroads. A wrong turn now might lead down a one-way street..... **Page 38**

Rugby union: Coaching has come a long way since Ian McGeechan's first game for Yorkshire in 1966 when the only coach was the one that took the team north to Melrose for the game..... **Page 38**

How the press was used: Last summer rival camps supporting the Prince and Princess of Wales mounted campaigns through the national press to win support for their point of view..... **Page 2**

Princess criticised: Lord McGregor of Durris admitted that the princess had made a mockery of his attempts to protect her against the press. Letter text..... **Page 2**

Controls "wrong": Senior judges condemned proposals for statutory press controls as "wholly wrong" and "dangerous"..... **Page 3**

Bug sales boom: As the government considers the outlawing of bugging devices, a leading supplier reported booming sales..... **Page 3**

Musical bumps: A new book suggests that today's performers are playing 19th century music in a style that might have horrified the composers of the day..... **Page 29**

Rum punch: Sir Harrison Birtwistle's "music theatre piece" *Punch and Judy* may be 25 years old, but it has lost none of its power to provoke..... **Page 29**

Just a facade: After decades of designing stark modernist buildings, architects are rediscovering the art of putting sculpture into their facades..... **Page 31**

Two cultures: A television programme rekindles the debate about Britain being handicapped by its two cultures mentality..... **Page 31**

Style scramble: There is no greater indication that you are part of New York's fashion and beauty in-crowd than an invitation to Chanel's sample sale..... **Page 14**

Fresh hope: A chance remark by a medical student working in a cramped laboratory in London has triggered a discovery that could hold the key to the cause of Alzheimer's disease..... **Page 15**

Expert result: Gone are the days when people could make money by listening to predictions of how house prices would rise..... **Page 34**



Ian Salisbury, the Sussex leg spinner who was sent to India as a net bowler, has been asked to remain, giving England a third spinner **Page 40**



Derek Hatton, former deputy leader of Liverpool City Council, pleaded not guilty to three charges of fraud at Mold North Wales **Page 5**



Hillary Clinton made the appointment breathlessly awaited by Washington hostesses: Ann Stock of Bloomingdales to be social secretary **Page 11**



Albert Reynolds retained the office of prime minister after seven weeks of negotiations gave Ireland a Fianna Fail-Labour coalition government **Page 10**

The Sicilian mafia, having been broken by Mussolini, found an unlikely lifeline through US naval intelligence. *Allied to the Mafia* (BBC2, 8.10pm)..... **Page 39**

Whose intrusion?

The royal family, it is now clear, does not need its self-serving knights of Westminster.... **Page 17**

No cash for Clinton

So the new president must either raise taxes or cut spending, maybe both..... **Page 17**

Gone into thin airs

The past has vanished beyond recovery, in music above all the arts. It is a delusion of the gullible to pretend that it can be recovered. It is not even desirable..... **Page 17**

ALAN COREN

On Sunday, I found myself watching yet another new TV detective. She was called Anna Lee, and I knew she was a detective long before she began detecting anything, because she was driving an idiosyncratic car..... **Page 16**

SIMON JENKINS

For modern politicians thinking long term is a momentary spasm. Like religious observance, it comes over them once or twice a year, but seldom for more than a weekend. Once they have cleaned the platitudes off their gumboots, they forget all about it. Yet the exercise retains its appeal..... **Page 16**

Readers suggest how old graveyards may be sensitively managed and rescued from neglect. **Page 17**

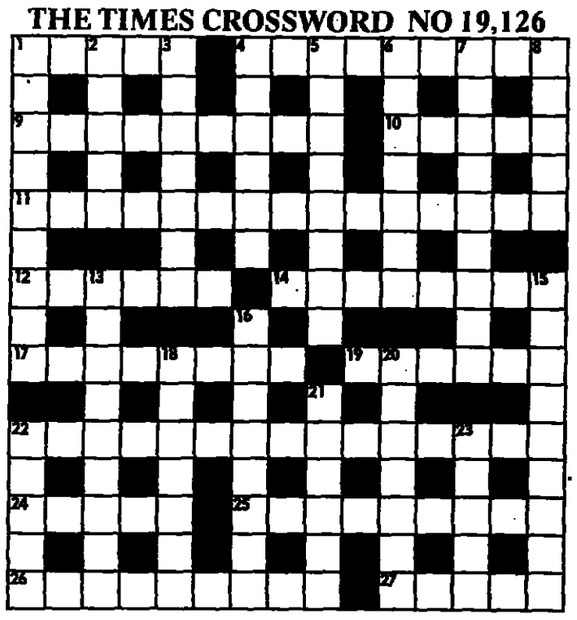
It's a real cliff hanger now: will Diana divorce Charles or is her love for her children too strong to allow her to go through with it? You know how these soaps go on: just as in the *Bold and the Beautiful* it is going to take a while before you get an answer to that one. In the meantime, as the sub-plot, the Press is being stalked by would-be censors. Whoever thought the British were a dour, colourless people?

—The Sowetan, Johannesburg

Only newspapers told [people] the truth. That's why we need a free press, because it's a protection for the public — admittedly sometimes an inadequate protection — from those who seek to keep the affairs of those in power shrouded in hypocrisy, deceit and lies

— Evening Standard

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,126



ACROSS

1 Splendid setting for politician's defence (5).
4 Bishop appears with jubilation, though behind time (9).
9 A clan leader develops it if he can (9).
10 Boat taking some copra hurriedly up the Kelantan river (5).
11 Ready for a fight involving canines (5,2,3,5).
12 Ride on horse is a risky undertaking (b).
14 Fighter, severely reprimanded, moved abroad (8).
17 A number gather to cross North Dakota — a huge area (4,4).
19 Current investment in public transport? You can count on it (6).
22 Material is supplied here for constructing columns (5,10).
24 Employ leverage to obtain an award (5).
25 Coarse but popular member in neat turnout (9).
26 Turning-point in conflict, capturing the empty barn (9).
27 Number one is absent from one or the other (5).

DOWN

1 Possibly Raphael's principal financial backer (9).
2 Peculiar expression of girl in Castletown, perhaps (5).
3 Heathen elected to bring up daughter in the country (7).
4 End up in jail for causing a fire? (6).
5 4'2" flagpole — one vital to an enterprise (8).
6 One who tries to acquire money at the bar? (7).
7 A man overturned it, cutting across most of another's logic (9).
8 The present solver and most of the rising generation (5).
13 One way to support another Cellini, perhaps (9).
15 Nonconformist is transported within the German borders (9).
16 Cause bewilderment, rather like a Birmingham suburb? (8).
18 Scholar's extraordinary ruse to gain a rubber (7).
20 Be sure, somehow, to let in master's cat (7).
21 Break the law and cause resentment (6).
22 Father West's fruit tree (5).
23 Nimble start to hurdling in South Wales (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,125

M	A	T	C	H	L	O	C	K		C	U	F	F	S
I		A		A	V		I	H		O		U		
L	A	M	I	N	A	E		S	C	A	R	R	E	D
K		P		D		R		M		R		E		A
F	R	A	I	L		F	R	E	E	M	A	S	O	N
L			I		I	T		S		T				
O	R	G	A	N	I	S	M				P	A	C	T
A		A		G		H		H		S		L		I
T	E	S	T				S	I	C	K	F	L	A	G
		H		S		P		G		E			H	
S	L	O	W	C	O	A	C	H		T	A	C	I	T
U		L		R		C		H		C		E		R
M	U	D	L	A	R	K		O	T	H	E	L	L	O
A		E		P		E		A		E		L		P
C	U	R	S	E		T	U	D	O	R	R	O	S	E

Concise Crossword, page 40

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouca,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife,Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have showers, but many eastern areas will have bright periods. The showers will be of rain, sleet or snow, with drifting in places. England and Wales will start mainly dry, with a few showers in northern and western parts, before rain spreads northeastwards, turning wintry on some northern hills. Cold in places, but less windy than yesterday, except for the Channel Islands. Outlook: unsettled with rain or showers.

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.3	0.68	0	32	snow
Anglesey	2.9	0.01	6	43	shower
Aviemore	-	1.16	-1	30	snow
Belfast	0.3	-	1	34	snow
Bognor Regis	-	0.28	10	50	shower
Bournemouth	0.1	0.12	10	50	hail
Bristol	0.1	0.28	8	46	shower
Buxton	1.8	0.41	5	41	snow
Cardiff	0.2	0.28	8	46	shower
Cromer	2.7	0.07	8	46	bright
Douglas	1.9	0.11	3	37	hail
Edinburgh	0.4	0.06	2	36	snow
Eskdalemuir	0.7	0.09	-1	34	snow
Exmouth	0.3	0.24	8	46	shower
Falmouth	-	0.14	9	48	shower
Folkestone	-	0.11	10	50	cloudy
Glasgow	0.3	0.24	2	36	snow
Guernsey	-	0.23	11	52	cloudy
Hastings	-	0.02	10	50	cloudy
Hunstanton	2.7	0.13	7	45	bright
Jersey	-	0.61	11	52	rain
Kinloss	-	0.10	0	32	snow
Leeds	1.9	0.23	5	41	snow
Littlehampton	-	0.28	10	50	shower
Liverpool	2.4	0.11	5	41	shower
London	0.6	0.11	12	54	cloudy
Manchester	3.2	0.20	6	43	snow
Margate	x	0.06	11	52	dull
Minehead	0.3	0.19	9	48	hail
Morecambe	1.2	0.49	5	41	thundr
Newcastle	3.1	0.13	4	39	shower
Newquay	-	0.09	9	48	shower
Penzance	-	0.11	9	48	shower
Plymouth	-	0.26	9	48	shower
Poole	-	0.10	11	52	dull
Prestwick	0.2	0.28	3	37	shower
Scarborough	-	0.10	7	45	snow
Scilly Isles	-	0.07	9	48	shower
Shanklin	-	0.17	10	50	cloudy
Southend	x	0.01		x	xdull
Southsea	-	0.22	10	50	rain
Stornoway	-	0.09	2	36	snow
Swanage	-	0.36	10	50	shower
Teignmouth	0.2	0.30	10	50	shower
Tenby	-	0.28	7	45	shower
Tiree	-	1.88	3	37	snow
Torquay	1.1	0.26	10	50	shower
Weymouth	0.1	0.50	11	52	shower
Wick	-	0.36	0	32	snow
Worthing	-	0.41	10	50	cloudy

x denotes not available

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	s	Majorca	15	59	s
Alcudia	15	59	s	Malaga	18	64	s
Alg'dria	18	61	f	Malta	16	61	s
Algiers	17	63	s	Melb'rne	19	84	r
Amst'dm	7	45	s	Mexico C*	20	68	s
Athens	14	57	s	Miami*	29	82	f
Bahrain	17	63	r	Milan	6	43	d
Bangkok	29	84	r	Montreal*	-12	10	f
Barbados*	27	81	f	Moscow	3	37	r
Barcelna	15	59	s	Munich	18	64	f
Belgrade	12	54	s	Naples	15	68	f
Berlin	3	37	r	N Delhi	16	61	f
Bermuda*	24	75	f	N York*	-2	28	c
Biarritz	13	55	fg	Nice	14	57	s
Borde'x	12	54	r	Oslo	2	36	sn
Brussels	7	45	s	Paris	9	48	f
Budapst	10	50	f	Peking	-2	28	s
B Aires*	35	95	s	Perth	33	91	s
Cairo	15	59	f	Prague	14	57	f
Chicago*	-3	27	sn	Reykjavik	-4	25	f
Ch'church	20	68	f	Rhodes	13	55	s
Cologne	4	39	c	Rio de J	28	73	f
C'phagn	5	41	s	Riyadh	16	61	s
Cadiz	12	54	f	Rome	16	61	s
Dublin	2	36	f	Salzburg	9	48	f
Dubrownik	13	55	s	S F'isco*	8	43	c
Faro	18	61	s	Santiago*	28	84	s
Florence	15	59	s	S Paulo*	20	68	d
Frankfurt	8	46	c	Seoul	2	36	s
Funchal	18	64	s	Sing'por	30	86	f
Geneva	13	55	f	Stckholm	2	36	c
Gibraltar	17	63	s	Strasb'rg	7	45	f
Helsinki	1	34	sn	Sydney	28	73	f
Hong K	18	64	c	Tangier	15	59	c
Innsbruck	5	41	f	Tel Aviv	19	66	s
Istanbul	7	45	s	Tenerife	19	66	s
Jeddah	21	70	s	Tokyo	11	52	f
Jo'burg*	25	77	f	Toronto*	-5	23	c
L Palmas	19	66	s	Tunis	17	63	s
Le Touet	8	46	s	Valencia	17	63	s
Lisbon	16	61	c	Vanc'ver*	-7	19	s
Locarno	6	43	f	Venice	6	43	fg
London	5	41	f	Vienna	5	41	c
L Angels*	13	55	s	Warsaw	6	43	r
Luxemburg	5	41	c	Wash'ton*	1	34	c
Luxor	17	63	s	Wel'ton	20	68	s
Madrid	4	39	c	Zurich	15	59	r

* denotes figures are latest available





London 4.18 pm to 8.00 am
Bristol 4.28 pm to 8.11 am
Edinburgh 4.06 pm to 8.36 am
Manchester 4.17 pm to 8.18 am
Penzance 4.46 pm to 8.16 am

Sun rises: 8.01 am
Sun sets: 4.18 pm
Moon sets 9.57 am
Moon rises 11.31 pm
Last quarter January 18

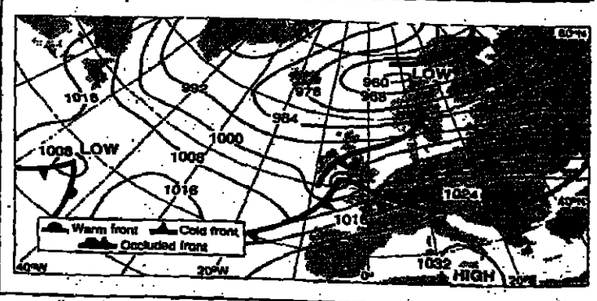
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	1	34	f	Guernsey	9	48	s
B'rmgham	6	41	s	Inverness	3	37	sl
Blackpool	5	41	f	Jersey	9	48	f
Bristol	6	43	s	London	5	41	f
Cardiff	7	45	s	M'chester	5	41	s
Edinburgh	3	37	c	Newcastle	5	41	s
Glasgow	3	37	c	R'nickaway	4	39	f

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.54	7.2	5.28	7.2	Liverpool	2.16	9.3	2.36	9.5
Aberdeen	4.40	4.2	4.45	4.4	Lowestoft	12.09	2.6	1.01	2.2
Avonmouth	10.31	13.3	10.58	12.7	Margate	3.00	4.9	3.39	4.6
Belfast	2.01	3.2	2.27	3.6	Milford Haven	9.32	7.1	8.59	6.6
Cardiff	10.16	12.3	10.43	11.8	Newquay	8.26	7.1	8.54	6.7
Devonport	9.03	5.5	9.31	5.1	Oban	8.46	3.9	9.17	3.5
Dover	2.04	6.7	2.29	6.4	Penzance	8.10	5.6	8.41	5.2
Falmouth	8.33	5.3	9.01	4.9	Portland	9.54	2.1	10.24	1.8
Glasgow	4.12	4.8	4.07	5.2	Portsmouth	2.25	4.9	2.39	4.8
Harwich	2.47	4.0	3.19	3.9	Shoreham	2.21	6.4	2.41	6.2
Holyhead	1.20	5.4	1.37	5.7	Southampton	1.57	4.7	2.11	4.5
Hull	9.32	7.4	9.41	7.7	Swansea	9.35	9.5	10.00	9.0
Ilfracombe	9.15	9.3	9.41	8.8	Tees	7.03	5.8	7.12	5.4
King's Lynn	9.56	8.4	9.57	8.7	W'ton-on-Nze	2.40	4.2	3.12	4.2
Leith	8.07	5.5	8.22	5.6					

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 6C (43F); min 6pm to 6am, 0C (32F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.01in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 3.7hr.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 4C (39F); min 6pm to 6am, 0C (32F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.49in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.



	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.40	2.20
Austria Sch	18.80	17.30
Belgium Fr	55.35	50.95
Canada $	2.105	1.946
Denmark Kr	10.41	9.61
Finland Mkk	9.13	8.33
France Fr	9.09	8.39
Germany Dm	2.675	2.475
Greece Dr	380.00	335.00
Hong Kong $	12.68	11.68
Ireland Pt	1.01	0.93
Italy Lira	2395.00	2230.00
Japan Yen	212.50	193.50
Netherlands Gld	3.01	2.76
Norway Kr	11.42	10.62
Portugal Esc	235.00	220.00
South Africa Rd	6.25	4.55
Spain Pta	186.00	173.00
Sweden Kr	12.03	11.23
Switzerland Fr	2.44	2.26
Turkey Lira	14300.0	13300.0
USA $	1.655	1.525

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. NB Rates are subject to change.

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Information supplied by Sid Hotline

Sacramento Kings 13 17 .433 11 | 6, R Gensler (3rd/2), 23rd/16.

| synthetic to the merely tear other hand stock me rear quiet in the street

مكنا من الدخول

هكذا من الأصل



BUSINESS 21-25

A second chance to embrace clean coal technology



ARTS 29-31

Does C.P. Snow's "two cultures" mentality still exist?



SPORT 35-40

Ian McGeechan sets standards in rugby union

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 39

THE TIMES

2

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13 1993

BUSINESS TODAY

LOBBIED



Tempus argues that Rocco Forte, faced with high debts and difficult markets, should think of selling his stake in Savoy Group
Page 25

SQUEEZED

Devaluation pushed raw material costs up last month but manufacturers found a lack of demand prevented price rises
Page 23

FAILED



Trade Indemnity, the leading credit insurer, revealed an unexpected rise in business failures in 1992 and warned of more to come
Page 22

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.5432 (-0.0125)
German mark ..... 2.5188 (-0.0139)
Exchange index ..... 81.8 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2757.9 (-15.5)
Dow Jones ... 3267.34 (+4.59)*
Nikkei Avge 16681.05 (+91.50)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 7%
3-month Interbank 7⅛-7⅛%
US Federal Funds 2¾%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.03-3.02%*
Long Bond 7.47%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£/$	1.5405*	£/$	1.5370
$/DM	1.6322*	£/DM	2.5084
$/SWfr	1.4980*	£/SWfr	2.3055
$/Ffr	5.5365*	£/Ffr	8.4960
$/Yen	125.26*	£/Yen	192.58
£/SDR	1.1278	£/ECU	1.2870

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 328.50 ..... PM 329.20
Close 330.10-330.60
New York:
Comex 329.75-330.25*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 139.7 November (3%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Guinness sheds 700 jobs and five distilleries

By George Sivell
City Editor

■ More than 700 jobs will go and five distilleries are to close in Guinness's Scotch subsidiary, the biggest shake-up since the Distillers takeover six years ago

TONY Greener, who took over as chairman and chief executive of Guinness on New Year's day, yesterday declared £125 million of cutbacks in the Scotch whisky industry and at Cruzcampo, Spain's largest brewer acquired by Guinness for £518 million in November 1990.

The shares fell 21p to 473p in response. More than 700 jobs will go over the next two years from United Distillers, which at present employs 5,000 in the Scottish whisky industry. Bottling and packaging will transfer from Leith, Inveralmond by Perth, and Broxburn in West Lothian, to the existing sites at Glasgow, Kilmarnock and Leven. About 300 jobs will go at Inveralmond, 190 at Broxburn, and 35 at Leith.

A further 150 jobs will go after the closure of the Cambus grain distillery at Alloa, although 50 will be retained to run the site as a stock warehouse and fillings plant. Four malt distilleries will close with the loss of 40 jobs at Bladenoch in Wigtown, Balmenoch at Crombdale on Speyside, Pittyvaich at Dufftown on Speyside and Rosebank in Falkirk.

In addition, Guinness is to invest £100 million over three years on the three packaging sites, largely on new bottling lines which will be reduced in number from 100 to 68. The £125 million of severance, early retirement, closures and asset writedowns will be deducted from the 1992 profits as an exceptional charges. Analysts had recently downgraded Guinness forecasts to £920 million before tax for 1992: The figure now falls to £795 million.

Mr Greener said: "These are not measures taken because a serious situation has arisen. They are an investment in the future of a business in which we are very confident." The UK whisky market fell 10 per cent during 1992, blamed by Guinness on the state of economy and the heavy taxes levied on whisky.

Analysts calculate the cutbacks and investment will save Guinness £25 million a year from 1995. Mr Greener said they would "improve quality and flexibility at substantially lower cost". Guinness said it was realigning grain and malt production in line with future expected demand.

Guinness has gradually rationalised the whisky business since acquiring Distillers in early 1986. It began with the duplicate head offices and marketing arrangements Distillers ran for each brand and has steadily worked back down the production chain to the cuts announced yesterday in distilling and bottling.

Mr Greener explained that the Spanish beer market fell back sharply in the second half of 1992 and that the outlook for 1993 was not good. Guinness intends to accelerate intended job cuts in Spain among the 3,000 workers.

Achieving job cuts through early retirement or redundancy is expensive. At the time of the acquisition, Spain was one of the fastest growing beer markets in Europe but some analysts questioned the price Guinness paid.

Scottish unions reacted angrily to the cuts. Robert Thomson, the GMB Scotland secretary, said: "We condemn these draconian cutbacks. They are a betrayal of the workforce and the whisky communities throughout Scotland. We demand that they be reversed and we will campaign at all levels to make that happen."

In Paris yesterday LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, the French luxury goods group, said its share of the cost of the restructuring at Guinness, in which it holds a 24 per cent stake, will reduce 1992 net profits to about Fr3 billion. In 1991, LVMH earned Fr3.74 billion.

LVMH said its net profit would have fallen slightly last year, excluding the net impact of its stake in Guinness, with growth in luggage and perfumes failing to compensate fully for a decline in wines and spirits. Brokers had generally expected LVMH to earn Fr3.5-3.6 billion last year. The main currencies in which it does business — the dollar and the yen — are tending firmer, and economic recovery is taking shape in America.

Tempus, page 25



In reflective mood: Peter Middleton, chief executive of Lloyd's of London, could soon be welcoming corporate members into the 300-year-old insurance market as a way of ensuring adequate funds to cover risk (Details, page 23)

Lilley acts on Maxwell funds

By Jill Sherman, Political Correspondent

PETER Lilley, the social security secretary, is to invite Sir John Cuckney, the chairman of Royal Insurance, to mediate in efforts to track down and distribute the missing money plundered from Maxwell pension fund.

The move to speed up recovering the assets comes after a hard-hitting report from the Commons social security select committee that points out that £34 million has already been run up in fees to professionals involved in chasing the money, with little to show for it. The fees, which are expected to rise substantially, will be offset against the retrieved pension fund assets.

The report says that thousands of pensioners are still waiting for a share of the missing £430 million that the lawyers and accountants were appointed to recover. Although about £150 million of the pension funds held in a Common Investment Fund have been recovered, administrators, lawyers and liquidators are still arguing about how it should be distributed.

The report calls on the government to give Sir John the job of bringing together the various administrators and liquidators to ensure that they stop pursuing minor claims that delay proceedings.

"The Maxwell pensioners have waited for more than a year to have any of their pension assets restored," the report states. "They should not be made to suffer any longer when there are sufficient assets to overcome their immediate plight."

Sir John was appointed by the government to mastermind its £2.5 million "drip feed" scheme to provide relief for the pensioners while their assets were tracked down. He is also chairman of the Maxwell Pensioners' Trust that is trying to raise money from the City to help pensioners. The committee is concerned that this money will dry up and there will be another demand for extra taxpayers' money.

Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead and the committee chairman, argued that the government should not come up with extra cash, and more pressure should be put on the professionals instead. He suggested that a six-month timescale should be put on recovering the money.

It is understood that Mr Lilley agrees with most of the points raised in the report and will ask Sir John to mediate in the distribution of the missing money. The administrators and liquidators would then be obliged to act on his recommendations without, in most cases, recourse to the courts.

The social security committee is also drawing up a list of financial institutions and banks that are to be asked to give evidence about Maxwell pension fund assets they hold. Among those to be asked to appear are Credit Suisse, Bank of America, Lehman Bros, Invesco MIM and Capel Cure Myers.

Ratners disappoints market

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

THE long-awaited Christmas trading statement from Ratners Group has disappointed the stock market by forecasting little change in profits for the current financial year, possible further shop closures and an unexpected Christmas downturn in American sales.

James McAdam, the chairman, said the American operations were expected to show an operating profit once Ratners reports figures for the year to end-January but that Britain would again see a loss.

He warned the market that the group was reviewing its heavy restructuring plans and that "it may be necessary to provide for some further limited rationalisation." Ratners has already announced the closure of 180 shops over a three-year period.

Ratners took £98 million of exceptional charges in 1991-2. Disregarding these, losses before tax were £24.3 million. Mr McAdam said pre-tax profits before any exceptionals would be broadly comparable with this figure in 1992-3.

This would be some £10 million worse than current market estimates. Mr McAdam said that 1992 turnover had been expected to be lower because of the heavy discounting that took place the previous year, and total sales were accordingly 18 per cent lower in the 11 months to end-December. During December itself sales were down 27 per cent in Britain and 8 per cent in America, he said, and in Britain the build-up to Christmas had been slower than expected. Sales in Britain had been expected to be lower, but analysts were surprised by the fall in American sales.

Mr McAdam said Ratners was still operating within the requirements of the facilities agreement negotiated with the banks, which comes up for renewal in June. Nick Bubb, retail analyst at Morgan Stanley, said the trading statement was "a bit disappointing." He added: "At the end of the day the banks will decide that things can only get better in terms of the economic background, and Ratners has done what they said they would on margins and costs."

Tempus, page 25

Picking losers rather than winners



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Suppliers to British Gas are up in arms. Their trade association claims they have already lost more than £100 million of business and up to 6,000 jobs because of official interference in their industry. Their chairman noted sadly: "We were coping very well with recession until the battle between the regulator and British Gas took hold." Sorry about that. Short of nationalisation, there is nothing like a fundamental monopolies commission enquiry to stop investment decisions.

British Gas is hardly likely to be free with its chequebook when it does not know what rate of return it will be allowed to earn on its pipeline network or, indeed, whether the company in which 2 million of us were persuaded to invest six years ago will still exist. Should the commission plump for radical change, and ministers agree, a demoralised management will be preoccupied with restructuring for 18 months. Do not be surprised if, during the upheaval, innovation is shelved or service and safety standards lapse, or if gas prices rise after monopoly buying power is smashed.

Since 1979, this government has overseen more intervention in the running of industry than any since Labour after 1945. The first phase of privatisation was thoroughly benign. This was intervention to end intervention. State bureaucracies were energised overnight by the prospect of transfer to the private sector or the mere threat of competition. Regulators, installed to provide residual protection for the public against monopoly power, achieved miracles far beyond the mighty powers of government. BT callboxes started working quite regularly within months of an Oftel dictat.

The greater aim was to get Whitehall out of the hair of managers, both in the traditional private sector and the newly privatised industries. The demise of the National Enterprise Board and DTI sponsoring departments symbolised the change. Even the regulators were meant to replace short-term political imperatives with stable contractual rules, that went along with stable prices and stable currencies as government's best gift to industry. These good intentions have been forgotten. The urge to meddle reasserted itself from about 1988. Had it not been for industrial engineering before privatisation of the power industry, which bizarrely raised prices to promote competition, trade ministers would not still be puzzling how to stop coal being squeezed out by costlier rivals. The means became the end. Competition is now as potent an excuse to intervene in industry, regardless of the practical impact on prices and output, as planning was for Labour. Instead of trying to pick winners, we are picking losers.

ICI was obliged to close much of its British fertiliser business because, from a theoretical view, it was better to encourage imports than for ICI to sell its ailing business to a competitor. Somebody seems to have forgotten that the purpose of promoting competition is to increase output by removing the monopolist's power to make more profit from less. The complacent beer industry may have deserved government interference but that was no reason to yield to temptation. In brewing, forced change hastened more mergers.

Privatised utilities remain the meddlers' favourite prey. With their regulators and sponsoring ministers, they have never been accepted as real private sector companies, so Whitehall has happily backed regulators who have resorted to ever more detailed meddling to resolve conflicts between keeping prices down and helping competitors in. The experience of British Gas and BT suggests that an official regulating only one company soon becomes its enemy instead. Yet British Gas faced more fundamental interference from the Office of Fair Trading, which forced it to shrink by giving away business. BT will soon face a similar threat. The strange logic of pit closures can only be reversed by changing the power industry rules again. So much for private sector incentives.

Regulators may have been set up as referees but they face pressures of their own. If they do not blow their whistles regularly, they are liable to be attacked on the BBC *Today* programme for being visually challenged. Ministers should act as a staying hand instead of being infected by this new culture of intervention.

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THE SCHEDULED AIRLINE WITH UNSCHEDULED BONUSES

TI forecasts more gloom in business failure rate

■ Devaluation of the pound and late payment of invoices by debtors will ensure that the level of insolvencies remains high despite a modest upturn in the economy

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

BRITAIN'S business outlook remains extremely fragile, and the number of company failures is likely to fall by only 10 per cent this year from very high levels, according to Trade Indemnity, the credit insurer.

The warning of further difficult times ahead came after an unexpected rise in company collapses during the final quarter of 1992.

Preliminary estimates from Trade Indemnity suggest that 1,780 companies ceased trading during the three months to end-December, a rise of 1 per cent on the previous quarter, when there is normally a marked seasonal decline.

If these figures prove correct, Britain will have lost 7,525 mature companies during 1992, down only 3.6 per cent on the record 7,807 company collapses recorded by Trade Indemnity in the previous year.

According to Barbara Bennett of TI: "Whilst there are glimmers of light on the horizon, it would be dangerous to assume that the worst of the recession is over."

She said: "We estimate that British industry and commerce will continue to trade precariously, and, consequently, cannot yet forecast any substantial and sustainable decline in business failures in the near term."

Ms Bennett insisted that slight improvements in economic confidence indicated by other surveys should not be taken out of context.

British industry had entered the recession with a high level of borrowing, and had subsequently destocked and reduced manpower in an effort to restore profitability and reduce debts. However, the decline in sterling after Britain's departure from the European exchange-rate mechanism has caused a sharp rise in the cost of imported materials, and those priced in dollars. These difficulties are being compounded by the continued problem of late payment of invoices by debtors.

Trade Indemnity has been collecting statistics for 26 years and claims that its figures often lead other insolvency indicators by up to six months. Their statistics tend to reflect patterns among established companies.

To date, they have proved an effective indicator of the course of the recession. The number of failures recorded by TI rose steadily throughout 1990 and 1991, finally showing a 10 per cent fall in the fourth quarter of that year. However, the number of collapses accelerated again during the first three months of 1992, before showing an 8 per cent fall in each of the two subsequent quarters.

Year on year, the number of failures during the fourth quarter is estimated to have shown a fall of just 5.4 per cent.

CARL RUTHERFORD



Food for thought: Chris Ivory of Dalepak, who gave a profits warning yesterday

Dalepak chilled by recession

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

SHARES in Dalepak Foods, the frozen foods producer, fell by almost a quarter to below £3 at one stage yesterday as the company unveiled an unexpected profits warning with the interim results.

Dalepak said trading profits for the current year will show a "modest decline" on the £3.96 million made last time after a flat first half that brought in a pre-tax figure of £1.60 million, down from £1.71 million, in the six months to end-October. The shares ended down 66p at 317p.

Chris Ivory, chief executive, said: "The market had expected us to continue to show quite sharp growth, and our share price had been at quite a significant premium to the market in recent months." That growth had taken place over the past four years and only now had been slowed by recession, he added.

The dividend is maintained at 1.5p. Mr Ivory said the big retailers had put pressure on margins by concentrating on their own-label meat grillsteaks, while in frozen vegetable grills, an area pioneered by Dalepak, there had been increased competition from Birds Eye.

A lack of production capacity, while new plant was being installed, had held back sales, which rose 1 per cent against a possible 4-5 per cent had it been in place. Mr Ivory said trading continued to be difficult and had been hit by cost increases on imports.

Directors profit on options averages £98,000

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

COMPANY directors cashing in their corporate share options made an average profit of more than £98,000, according to the latest analysis of share option values.

The study, carried out by the Top Pay Unit of Incomes Data Services (IDS), the independent pay analysts, says that directors made an average profit of 136 per cent when they realised their share options.

IDS said that options — the system by which directors are given the right to buy shares in the future at today's market price — form an important part of directors' pay packages, but that their value is uncertain until they are exercised.

Looking at a sample of 159 exercised share options, IDS said the latest publicly available figures, covering the second quarter of last year, showed that despite that uncertainty, directors made an average cash profit of £98,197, with directors exercising their options after an average of four and a half years.

An analysis of companies covered by the FT-SE index showed average options profits to be higher still, at £148,883, or 176 per cent. Some options were much higher, with IDS listing the largest as the £815,725 profit realised on a single option by a director of Tomkins, followed by a Reuters option with a profit of £567,798. Lowest in the group studied was the £7,828 profit realised by a Carlton director.

The survey shows that directors are exercising their options earlier during the recession. The fastest time has fallen from 41 to 36 months since IDS examined the last three months of 1991.

☐ Seven out of ten companies in the private sector now employ part-time managers, according to a study by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

The study, whose sponsors include the London Stock Exchange, BT and Citibank, identified 120,000 part-time managers in the private sector — a much higher figure than expected, given the general belief that part-time management is almost non-existent.

Most part-time managers are women with children working in service companies in the South-east, the study found.

Isabel Boyer, of the Matrix Consultancy that carried out the study, said that most companies agreed part-time arrangements in order to retain valued managers, and forecast that the trend was likely to grow in the future.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Rank says film and TV interests are not for sale

RANK Organisation has moved to scotch continuing rumours that a consortium of unnamed investors may be planning to buy some or all of the group's film and television interests. In a formal statement to the Stock Exchange, Michael Gifford, the Rank chief executive, said although it was not Rank's normal practice to comment on such rumours, "we believe on this occasion it is in shareholders' interests to say clearly and unequivocally that our film and TV activities are not for sale".

Rumours started last week that the consortium might be interested in paying £400 million for the division and have refused to abate despite earlier denials. The consortium is reportedly being advised by Chemical Bank, Hoare Govett and Arthur Andersen.

Helpline for savers

THE Inland Revenue launched a £2 million campaign to encourage savers on low incomes to claim back tax that has been deducted from their investments. Since April 1991, savers with building society and bank accounts have been able to earn interest without deduction of tax if they are non-taxpayers or to claim back overpaid tax if only part of their savings income is above their tax thresholds. Up to 10 million people are missing out on tax refunds, according to the Revenue. A free telephone line will advise people how to claim. It will be available on 0800 660-800 until the end of March and may be extended if there appears to be a demand.

Rail boost at Dewhurst

DEWHURST, the electrical control equipment manufacturer, increased pre-tax profits to £849,801 (£642,810) in the year to September 27. Turnover rose to £9.1 million (£7.8 million). Earnings per share were 5.10p (4.03p). A final dividend of 1.26p (1.2p) a share makes a total for the year of 1.89p (1.8p) per share. A peak in deliveries to the rail industry helped to produce record sales in the second half, in turn boosting full-year profits. Profits are expected to continue growing, but the rate of growth will depend on some recovery in the group's traditional United Kingdom markets. The shares were unchanged at 44p.

Barbour lifts dividend

BARBOUR Index, the specialist information supplier that produces product directories for the building industry, is raising its dividend despite a 2.4 per cent dip in first-half profits. Pre-tax profits slipped to £2.71 million in the six months to end-October, down from £2.78 million last time, as turnover eased 2.4 per cent to £7 million. Patrick Barbour, chairman, does not expect to see much change in the group's financial results this year. The company has launched five services over the past year, three for health and safety and two for construction. The interim dividend is raised to 2.55p (2.4p) a share. Barbour shares added 8p to 283p.

Lightship suspended

DEALING in shares in Lightship, Britain's biggest pawnbroker, formerly Harvey & Thompson, were suspended yesterday as negotiations continued about a refinancing deal for its main American subsidiary. Lightship, renamed last February, has been forced to delay its results for the year to June 30 because of the refinancing talks. The company gave warning last year that trading at Lightship Financial Group, its American subsidiary, had suffered in the recession. The results are expected by end-March and dealing in shares is likely to remain frozen until then. Lightship incurred a loss of £11.7 million in the year to the end of June 1991.

M&W slips to £2m

M&W, the convenience store group based on the south coast, reported full-year pre-tax profits down slightly to £2 million from £2.2 million, as receivable interest dipped sharply to £60,000 compared with £338,000 last time. However, at the operating level profit advanced 8 per cent to £1.97 million, and the total dividend payout shows an 11 per cent increase to 2.5p (2.25p) via 1.25p final. M&W's directors expect continuing operational efficiencies from the introduction of electronic scanning at the tills, and the group, which owns 100 stores, says it will continue to open outlets as opportunities arise.

Howden looks to growth

By Colin Campbell

HOWDEN Group, the engineering company that is based in Glasgow which has been dogged by a soured Danish tunnelling machine contract since 1988, says the decks have now been cleared after a final provision of £2.5 million taken in its interim report to end-October.

Under the terms of a settlement, reached in December, of its dispute with MT Group, the consortium responsible for building twin rail tunnels under the Great Belt Straits in Denmark, James Howden will receive about £7 million in phased cash payments by June 30.

"Management now looks forward to being able to concentrate all its efforts on growing the business," Howden said.

Group pre-tax profits in the six months to October 31 rose from £5.81 million to £6.05 million, and the interim dividend goes up from 0.7p to 0.75p a share. Interim turnover was £156.2 million compared with £138.3 million.

Howden says the current financial year opened with an order book of about £300 million, though this level had since fallen. An improved order inflow in the second half is expected, and there should be a "satisfactory performance" in profits for the year as a whole.

Howden says sterling's withdrawal from the exchange-rate mechanism will bring it benefits, although there could be fluctuations in the translated profits of overseas operations.

The shares eased 4p to 63p.

Caravan operations help lift Burndene

By Philip Pangalos

SHARES in Burndene Investments surged 115p to 360p after the group, whose interests span from caravans to hosiery, unveiled a 33.6 per cent advance in full-year profits and a higher dividend.

A strong performance from the caravan manufacturing and park operation, up 22.1 per cent at £3.64 million, helped pre-tax profits climb to £5.78 million in the year to October 3, up from £4.33 million, on turnover ahead 20.6 per cent to £57.1 million.

Pretty Legs Hosiery, the group's women's hosiery manufacturing operation, saw profits increase 10.9 per cent to £760,802.

Earnings rose to 39.5p (29.31p) a share. An increased final dividend of 10.0p (6.5p) is proposed, giving a 52.9 per cent rise in the total payout to 13p (8.5p) for the year. The board is also proposing a ten-for-one bonus issue designed to help improve liquidity.

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	2,900	Carlton Cms	857	Land Secs	2,000	Scot Hydro	1,600
Alld-Lyons	2,300	Coats Viy	1,300	Legal & Gn	4,000	Scot & New	165
Anglian W	570	Cm Union	461	Lloyds Bk	2,200	Scot Power	1,500
Argyll Gp	1,700	Courtaulds	1,600	MB Cardn	335	Sears	1,500
Arjo Wiggn	656	De La Rue	905	Marks Spr	3,600	Svrn Trent	823
AB Foods	346	Eng China	1,700	NFC	654	Shell Trans	3,200
BAA	1,400	Enterpr Oil	179	NatWst Bk	3,800	Siebe	1,100
BAT Inds	1,800	Fisons	2,400	Nat Power	1,200	SmKl Bch	3,600
BET	933	Forte	1,100	Nth Wst W	838	Smith Nph	5,100
BOC	381	GRE	884	Nthn Fds	1,000	Smith (WH)	341
BP	5,300	GUS A	276	P & O	925	Sthn Elec	844
BT	36,000	Gen Acc	861	Pearson	935	Sun Allnce	1,700
BTR	2,400	Gen Elec	2,500	PowerGen	747	TI Gp	728
Bk of Scot	1,700	Glaxo	11,000	Prudential	2,600	TSB	5,800
Barclays	3,100	Granada	1,800	RTZ	1,500	Tate & Lyle	2,900
Bass	1,400	Grand Met	1,900	Rank Org	3,300	Tesco	9,200
Blue Circle	1,500	Guinness	7,900	Reckitt Col	981	Thames W	835
Boots	1,000	HSBC	12,000	Redland	1,200	Thrn EMI	1,300
Bowater	1,400	Hanson	9,100	Reed Intl	1,300	Tomkins	7,600
Brit Airwys	5,100	ICI	1,400	Rentokil	585	Unilever	1,800
Brit Gas	5,600	Inchcape	436	Reuters	870	Utd Bisc	2,300
Brit Steel	6,000	Kingfisher	1,300	Rolls Royce	4,200	Vodafone	1,500
Burmah Cast	612	Kwik Save	1,000	Rothmans	202	Wellcome	1,200
Cable Wire	1,900	LASMO	801	Ryl Bk Scot	1,800	Whitbd 'A'	1,700
Cadbury	1,900	Ladbroke	8,100	Sainsbury	3,200	Wilms Hld	1,600

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3267.34 (+4.59)
S&P Composite 431.29 (+0.34)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 16681.05 (+91.50)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 5671.26 (-1.84)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency 96.4 (+0.4)

Sydney: AO 1509.4 (-4.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1530.19 (-1.77)

FTSE Euro 100: 1071.43 (+1.56)

Brussels:
General 5641.17 (+4.67)

Paris: CAC 477.62 (-7.30)

Zurich: SKA Gen 437.5 (+6.7)

London:
FT A All-Share 1336.17 (-6.73)
FT 500 1482.42 (-8.61)
FT Gold Mines 61.3 (-1.1)
FT Fixed Interest 108.84 (-0.14)
FT Govt Secs 93.31 (-0.05)
Bargains 26977
SEAQ Volume 666.4m
USM (Datastrm) 124.24 (-0.21)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
January 11	January 29	April 15	April 26

Call options were taken out on 12/1/93: Acorn Comp, Alphameric, Brown & Jackson, Costain, Fairhaven, Gardiner Group, Hanson Wts, Marley, Next, Premier Cons Oil, Sims Food, WPP. Put: Acorn Comp. Puts & Calls: ASDA, Fairhaven, Premier Cons Oil.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 93	2797.0	2803.0	2770.0	2775.0	8774
Previous open interest: 46156	Jun 93				2795.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 93	93.29	93.35	93.24	93.25	13276
Previous open interest: 227401	Jun 93	93.62	93.67	93.58	93.60	6737
	Sep 93	93.68	93.73	93.63	93.65	2281
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 93	96.49	96.50	96.47	96.48	870
Previous open interest: 19566	Jun 93	96.16	96.17	96.10	96.11	377
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 93	92.08	92.13	92.02	92.02	46669
Previous open interest: 398941	Jun 93	92.98	93.00	92.88	92.89	25017
US Treasury Bond	Mar 93	104-01	104-01	104-01	103-21	10
Previous open interest: 721	Jun 93				102-14	0
Long Gilt	Mar 93	99-30	100-08	99-13	99-16	31673
Previous open interest: 55305	Jun 93				100-04	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 93	108.80	108.83	108.79	108.83	694
	Jun 93				108.24	0
German Govmt Bond	Mar 93	92.93	93.12	92.89	92.91	52868
Previous open interest: 156785	Jun 93	92.97	93.09	92.94	92.93	836
Three month ECU	Mar 93	90.43	90.51	90.38	90.39	823
Previous open interest: 11098	Jun 93	91.62	91.67	91.59	91.59	538
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 93	94.57	94.59	94.34	94.44	8383
Previous open interest: 36966	Jun 93	95.00	95.00	94.85	94.85	1786
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 93	94.25	94.46	93.80	93.92	10395
Previous open interest: 22599	Jun 93				94.02	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 81.8 (day's range 81.8-82.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Jan 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8210-2.8516	2.8210-2.8290	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	51.53-52.17	51.62-51.73	4-8ds	11-17ds
Copenhagen	9.6870-9.8020	9.6870-9.7100	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	0.9465-0.9495	0.9467-0.9191	204-727ds	335-1168ds
Frankfurt	2.5067-2.5368	2.5067-2.5100	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	224.21-226.96	224.32-224.79	117-166ds	375-463ds
Madrid	177.73-180.44	177.92-178.66	126-143ds	341-360ds
Milan	2279.70-2319.00	2301.00-2319.00	10-12ds	29-32ds
Montreal	1.9628-1.9888	1.9628-1.9650	0.09pr-par	0.15-0.02pr
New York	1.5365-1.5582	1.5365-1.5375	0.58-0.56pr	1.45-1.43pr
Oslo	10.7060-10.8460	10.7060-10.7290	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	8.4890-8.6170	8.4890-8.5030	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	11.4460-11.7370	11.4460-11.4700	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	192.47-194.86	192.47-192.68	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	17.61-17.85	17.63-17.69	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.3039-2.3174	2.3039-2.3071	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel. Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5394-1.5420
Australia dollar	2.2820-2.2852
Bahrain dinar	0.581-0.593
Brazil cruzeiro*	20730.2-20730.6
Cyprus pound	0.744-0.754
Finland marka	8.382-8.498
Greece drachma	335.25-342.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.9337-11.9421
India rupee	44.51-45.47
Kuwait dinar KD	0.469-0.479
Malaysia ringgit	3.9986-4.0028
Mexico peso	4.80-4.90
New Zealand dollar	3.0019-3.0098
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.777-5.903
Singapore dollar	2.5527-2.5560
S Africa rand (fin)	7.2884-7.4698
S Africa rand (com)	4.7246-7.7301
U A E dirham	5.6555-5.7795

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4808-1.4819
Austria	11.43-11.45
Belgium (Com)	33.43-33.48
Canada	1.2754-1.2759
Denmark	6.29-6.30
France	5.5275-5.5325
Germany	1.631-1.632
Hong Kong	7.741-7.742
Ireland	1.620-1.623
Italy	1485.0-1495.0
Japan	125.11-125.16
Malaysia	2.594-2.595
Netherlands	1.831-1.834
Norway	6.9575-6.9675
Portugal	145.45-145.65
Singapore	1.656-1.657
Spain	115.3-115.8
Sweden	7.516-7.526
Switzerland	1.4937-1.4942

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 3 Week fixed: 6½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth: [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open n/a, close n/a.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	3.14	n/a	3.25	3.38	3.76
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 31, 1992 Agreed rates Jan 26, 1993 to Feb 23, 1993 Scheme I: 8.38%. Schemes II & III: 8.50%. Reference rate Dec 1, 1992to Dec 31, 1992 Scheme IV & V: 7.232%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	10-11
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Bank)

Bullion: Open $328.00-328.50 Close: $330.10-330.60 - High: $330.10-330.60 Low: $327.00-327.50 Krugerrand: $328.50-330.50 (£213.00-215.00)

Sovereigns: Old $78.00-80.00 (£49.50-51.50) New $78.00-80.00 (£49.50-51.50)

Platinum: $358.00 (£231.85) Silver: $3.73 (£2.43) Palladium: $111.70 (£72.35)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Alld Lyon	600	27	47	59	6	16	33
(*617½)	650	4½	23	35	35	45	62
ASDA	60	6½	10	13	2	[illegible]	[illegible]
(*65½)	70	2	7	9	7½	11	13
Bass	550	50	67	80	2	11	20
(*592)	600	13	32	50	16	30	40
Boots	460	39	51	58	1	7½	17
(*493)	500	8½	27	34	12	22	35
Br Airways	260	15	26	32	5½	13	23
(*268)	280	5	17	22	15	23	34
BP	220	20	24	31	1½	6½	10
(*237)	240	4½	13	20	8	16	19
	260	1½	5½	11	24	29	32
Br Steel	60	3	7	10	3	6½	9
(*60)	70	1	4	6½	11	13	15½
C & W	700	21	46	64	10	27	42
(*706½)	750	3½	23	40	45	55	72
CU	600	27	40	50	8	24	33
(*614½)	650	4	16	28	36	55	63
Courtauld	550	48	64	76	4½	12	24
(*587½)	600	13	32	48	17	27	44
GKN	460	10	22	35	10	30	37
(*460)	500	2	9	19	43	59	64
Grnd Met	420	13	30	45	9	20	28
(*423½)	460	2	16	25	40	45	50
ICI	1050	52	74	94	6½	48	62
(*1096½)	1100	17	45	69	26	76	90
	1150	4½	25	51	64	115	125
Kingfshr	550	28	48	59	7	18	31
(*572½)	600	4½	22	35	33	45	56
Ladbroke	180	15	24	28	4	13	22
(*187½)	200	4½	14	20	15	24	33
Land Sec	420	24	35	41	2	7	19
(*440)	460	3	13	20	23	28	43
M & S	300	23	31	37	2	5½	13
(*318)	330	4	14	21	15	20	27
Sainsbury	550	16	35	47	9	19	32
(*556½)	600	2½	14	20	45	51	60
Shell	500	36	40	51	1	10½	16
(*530)	550	4	11½	24	21	38	42
Smkl Bch	475	14	-	-	10	-	-
(*475½)	500	4½	20	34	27	37	46
Storehse	200	8	17	24	7	12	17
(*204½)	220	3	9	16	21	24	30
Trafalgar	80	7	13	16	3	6	9
(*85½)	90	2	7	12	7	10	14
Unilever	1050	23	44	63	13	39	49
(*1051½)	1100	6	22	41	44	22	41
Utd Bisc	360	11	24	29	6½	20	25
(*365)	390	3	10	16	30	39	44

Series		Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
BAA	700	59	77	85	6	15	25
(*743½)	750	25	45	55	24	34	47
BAT Ind	950	45	62	79	18	46	55
(*967½)	1000	23	35	55	46	75	83
BTR	500	50	55	63	3½	10½	16
(*543½)	550	15	25	34	18	33	38
Br Aero	180	17	26	32	21	33	40
(*175½)	200	9	18	24	38	50	55
Br Telcm	360	35	44	49	3	6	12
(*389½)	390	13½	25	30	11	16½	25
Cadbury	420	42	46	53	4	12	16
(*455½)	460	15	22	30	17	30	35
Guinness	460	35	45	53	9	22	26
(*474½)	500	12	24	32	27	41	47
GEC	260	16½	24	28	4½	5½	15
(*268½)	280	6	14	17½	15	18	25
Hanson	220	21½	25	28½	2½	5	8
(*239)	240	7½	13½	18	8	14	17
LASMO	140	18	23	29	6	13	16
(*150½)	160	8	15	20	16	23	27
Lucas	130	21	29	31	5	11	16
(*143½)	140	15	23	27	10	17	20
P & O	500	41	51	61	14	35	45
(*519½)	550	16	27	38	41	65	73
Pilkngtn	100	12	18	21	6½	12	16
(*106)	110	7	13	17	12	17	21
Prudential	280	16½	22	26	7	16	19
(*297½)	300	6½	12	17	18½	27	31
RTZ	650	32	43	58	19	41	46
(*648)	700	11	24	37	50	70	77
Scot New	420	32	43	50	5½	14	22
(*439½)	460	10	22	29	25	34	42
Tesco	260	14	21	28	8	15	18
(*265)	280	6	12	17	22	27	30
Thames W	460	38	50	57	4½	10	19
(*490)	500	12	27	31	19	27	38
Vodafone	390	34	47	55	8	17	24
(*408)	420	16	30	39	21	31	38

FT-SE INDEX (*2758)

	2650	2700	2750	2800	2850	2900
Calls						
Jan	124	75	27	8	1	½
Feb	157	116	77	52	32	19
Mar	185	141	110	78	53	38
Apr	199	164	128	102	78	58
Jun	-	193	-	133	-	90
Puts						
Jan	1½	4½	14	44	90	133
Feb	23	35	55	80	112	144
Mar	40	51	67	95	125	163
Apr	50	65	85	103	137	170
Jun	-	83	-	125	-	190

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	330	42	50	56	6½	11	16
(*362½)	360	23	30	41	18	24	30
Amstrad	20	5	6	7	2	3	3½
(*23)	25	2	3½	4	5	5½	6
Barclays	360	32	39	45	23	29	39
(*371)	390	18	27	32	42	48	56
Blue Circ	180	25	29	39	12	21	27
(*188½)	200	15	20	29	21	34	38
Br Gas	280	15	19	24	9	17	19
(*288)	300	7	9½	15½	21	30	32
	330	2	4	8	49	55	56
Dixons	260	18	29	33	20	26	32
(*253)	280	12	20	25	32	37	43
Eurotnnl	330	40	53	63	18	28	35
(*345)	360	23	38	50	35	43	52
Forte	180	21	26	31	12	22	26
(*186½)	200	12	17	22	23	34	37
Glaxo	700	59	82	102	27	42	51
(*723)	750	33	57	77	58	67	78
	800	17	37	57	92	100	110
HSBC	500	47	61	75	24	35	45
(*521½)	550	22	39	53	52	63	71
Hillsdwn	130	17	22	25	11	17	23
(*135)	140	13	17	21	16	25	29
Lonrho	70	9	12	15	8	10	13
(*63)	80	5	8½	10	14	17	20
Reuter	1350	95	128	155	59	77	98
(*1381)	1400	67	102	133	80	105	123
R-Royce	110	9½	13	17	10½	14	16
(*107½)	120	6	9½	12½	18	21	22
Sears	100	8½	10½	14	7	11	13
(*98)	110	4	7	9	14	16	18
Thrn Emi	850	34	57	66	32	43	63
(*840)	900	16	34	44	70	77	96
TSB	140	17	20	24	6	8½	12
(*149)	160	6	10	14	18	20	23
Vaal Reefs	25	5½	6	5½	2½	3	3½
(*$29)	30	2½	4	4	5½	6	7½
Wellcome	900	70	91	114	32	51	64
(*911½)	950	40	66	89	57	75	88

Series		Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Fisons	240	10	25	34	12	24	36
(*236)	260	4	17	26	27	37	49

Series		Calls Feb	Calls May	Calls Aug	Puts Feb	Puts May	Puts Aug
Eastrn Elc	400	29	42	-	7½	14	-
(*428)	430	13	-	-	21	-	-

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Natl Pwr	260	26	33	37	6½	10	15
(*280½)	280	14	23	26	15	19	25
Scot Pwr	220	15	22	26	5	8½	13
(*231)	240	5½	11½	15	16	20	24

January 12, 1993 Tot: 26739 Calls: 13357 Puts: 13382 FT-SE Calls: 5545 Puts: 5394
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

REPORT: Wheat futures again eased lower on light trade as sterling remained firm. Although physical markets are holding values there seems to be some re-selling of physical grain no longer needed for export business, especially futures stores that are being retendered through the futures or being sold exstore on the physical.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

Mar	694-693	May	789 BID
May	707-706	Jul	804-803
Jul	721-719	Sep	820-819
Sep	734-733	Dec	834-830
Dec	755-754		
Mar	776 BID		Volume: 4031

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	968-965	Sep	954-952
Mar	966-964	Nov	960 BID
May	955-954	Jan	unq
Jul	950-949		Volume: 3377

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Oct	193.0-91.0
Spot: 186.30		Dec	191.0-87.0
Mar	191.0-89.0	Mar	196.0-92.0
May	194.0-92.0	May	198.0-94.0
Aug	193.0-91.0		Volume: 5

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Renters		Oct	247.0-46.1
Spot: 256.5		Dec	250.9-49.1
Mar	253.0-52.6	Mar	252.5-50.1
May	254.5-54.0	May	255.5-51.0
Aug	259.5-58.5		Volume: 987

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 12

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	77.05	88.24	115.33
(+/-)	-5.91	+1.35	-0.28
Eng/Wales:	76.62	87.94	114.91
(+/-)	-6.21	+1.60	-0.04
(%)	+5.9	-2.8	+9.7
Scotland:	83.88	90.72	116.79
(+/-)	-0.26	+1.11	-0.77
(%)	-63.6	-41.0	-6.3

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (p/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Feb	unq	unq	Jun	unq	unq
Apr	103.0	103.0			Volume: 6

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Jan	134.65
Mar	135.90
May	137.85
Jun	138.95
Sep	107.65
	Volume: 192

BARLEY (close £/t)

Jan	129.50
Mar	132.15
May	133.75
Sep	106.15
Nov	109.15
	Volume: 52

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Feb	153.50
Apr	151.80
Jun	141.80
Aug	142.80
Oct	147.30
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	61.5	61.2
May	unq	70.8
Apr	unq	91.5
		Volume: 26

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/kg)
Feb 64.25-63.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): A wealth of unsold crude and products overode any Mid-East tensions or supply disruptions in the North Sea.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.90	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Jan)	16.95	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Feb)	17.10	-0.45
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	18.45	-0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	18.60	-0.50

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	184 (-1)	186 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	164 (-3)	165 (-3)
Non EEC 1H Feb	169 (-4)	170 (-4)
Non EEC 1H Mar	166 (n/c)	168 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	70 (n/c)	71 (-1)
Naphtha	174 (-3)	176 (-3)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Jan	162.50 EXP	Apr	162.00-62.25
Feb	162.50-62.75	May	162.00-62.25
Mar	162.75-63.00	Jun	162.00-63.00
			Vol: 25790

BRENT (6.00pm)

Feb	17.08-17.09	May	17.54-17.62
Mar	17.26-17.29	Jun	17.62 BID
Apr	17.42-17.46		Vol: 40986

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Jan	181.50 EXP	Apr	192.25-93.50
Feb	182.75-83.00	May	196.00 SLR
Mar	187.00-89.00		Vol: 882

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 93	1276	1267	1276
Feb 93	1245	1240	1243
Mar 93	1243	1240	1243
Apr 93	1259	1242	1258

Vol: 324 lots. Open int'st: 3197 Index 1308 -11

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3 mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1412.0-1414.0	1437.0-1438.0	1246600
Lead (£/tonne)	285.50-286.00	297.00-297.25	41225
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1052.0-1053.0	1072.0-1072.5	364300
Tin ($/tonne)	5810.0-5815.0	5870.0-5880.0	10205
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1223.0-1224.0	1245.5-1246.0	856275
Nickel ($/tonne)	5950.0-6051.0	6025.0-6030.0	94800

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هكذا من الأصل

Low d
costs

Merrett
corpora

Recession



Britanni

هكذا من الأصل

Low demand and higher costs squeeze industry

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

■ **Inflation seems set to fall below 3 per cent on Friday as manufacturers continue to absorb the impact of higher input costs caused by devaluation of the pound**

BRITISH manufacturers have not been able to pass on to consumers the full impact of sterling's devaluation, which has raised the cost of imported raw materials.

That trend continued in December, when input prices were 5.2 per cent higher than a year ago, the biggest increase since November, 1979, and a significant jump from the 4.3 per cent rate of increase seen in November.

Between November and December, input prices rose only 0.1 per cent, much less than economists had been expecting. However, some argued that this figure is heavily affected by seasonal adjustments. Without the seasonal adjustment, input prices rose 1.7 per cent in December compared with a year ago, much lower than the 3.2 per cent annual rise in November.

Manufacturers' output prices rose by far less than the increase in the cost of their raw materials. Output prices in December were 3.5 per cent up on a year ago, compared with an annual increase in November of 3.3 per cent. This suggests that manufacturers remain constrained by the lack of demand in the economy although they have started to try and pass prices on to their customers. The rise between November and December was only 0.2 per cent.

The Treasury believes that output prices excluding food, drink and tobacco tend to give a better guide to price pressures and, on this measure, they remain quite steady, with a rise of 2.4 per cent in December compared with a year ago, the same rate of price increase recorded in November and the lowest rate of increase since April, 1969.

A Treasury official noted that rises in input prices seem to have slowed down and said that much of the effect of the devaluation may already have come through. However, economists such as Ian Harnett, of Strauss Turnbull, said that the full effect of devaluation on input costs takes more than a year to come through.

He noted that the bulk of the 1.7 per cent rise in unadjusted input prices in December compared with a year ago was particularly worrying because the bulk of that increase came from the increased cost of electricity to industrial consumers, a purely domestic price pressure.

Despite the health warnings, yesterday's figures suggest that December's retail prices index, published on Friday, will have fallen below 3 per cent. The currency markets had a quiet day, with tensions in the exchange-rate mechanism easing. Despite the decision by the Irish authorities to cut overnight interest rates to 30 per cent from 100 per cent, the punt strengthened and remained some distance from its ERM floor.

The franc was buoyed by news of an inflation rate of only 2 per cent last year, the lowest since 1956. Sterling closed little changed from late Monday at DM2.5325 and $1.5570. The gilt market was put on the defensive by the Bank of England's announcement that it will hold an auction on January 27.

☐ The seven wise men, appointed by the government to make up an independent forecasting panel, have met for the first time to discuss how the new panel will work. They confirmed that their first forecasting session together will be held on February 9.

Yesterday's meeting, held at the Treasury, was administrative. Members of the panel said that the Treasury had set up a secretariat that would assist in compiling reports from the Panel to the Chancellor three times a year.

The report is likely to be a "hefty" document, one of the panel members said. It will contain a summary of each meeting of the panel, including differences of opinion. The views of individual panel members will be annexed.

The first report is likely to be published for public perusal at least a week after the first meeting on February 9 to give the panel time to agree drafts and a final report. One member said he expected the seven to be closely involved in the drafting. "As a group, we have total control over the contents of the report," he said.

There appeared to be little contention at yesterday's meeting and no sense that the report, which is likely be written by a member of the Treasury secretariat and then agreed by the panel, will fail to represent the diverse views of the seven.



Guinness defendant: Thomas Ward who appeared before the Old Bailey yesterday

Ward and Saunders 'were to share £5.2m'

By A Correspondent

ERNEST Saunders, Guinness's former chief executive, was to receive a share of £5.2 million stolen from the brewery group by an American lawyer after the company took over Distillers, an Old Bailey court heard yesterday.

Thomas Ward, the lawyer, 53, "carried out a joint enterprise with Ernest Saunders to steal the £5.2 million", alleged Victor Temple, prosecuting. With Mr Saunders' knowledge, Mr Ward submitted a false invoice for £5.2 million to Guinness in the name of Marketing and Acquisition Consultants after the successful Distillers bid. MAC was a Jersey company controlled by Mr Ward.

Mr Ward claimed "quite falsely and dishonestly, the money was required to pay numerous consultancy costs incurred during the course of the bid," said Mr Temple. He claimed he was obliged to employ many different agencies and personnel. He said the £5.2 million payment was to third parties and not himself. Ward, 53, a Guinness director at the time of the takeover, denies three charges alleging false accounting, procuring by deception and theft in May, 1986. Mr Temple said the payment was never disclosed to — "still less approved by" — the full Guinness board. "The only people who knew the reality of the position and the true purpose of the invoice were Ward and Saunders."

The prosecution alleged £3 million went into Mr Saunders' Swiss bank account.

"Saunders lent himself to this dishonest enterprise, backing up Ward's explanation to the purpose of the £5.2 million payment. Here you have an instance of the division of the spoils — £3 million to be Saunders' share."

The rest was Ward's, Mr Temple alleged. The money remained in Mr Saunders' account until November, 1986, when it was transferred to an account held by Mr Ward with money from the MAC account.

"It was no coincidence that by October 12 both Ward and Saunders, as a result of information from certain sources, realised a formal inquiry into the Guinness affairs was inevitable. "Forewarned, they took immediate steps to safeguard their interests." Mr Temple said Mr Ward was to control and disperse the money, deflecting attention from Mr Saunders.

Mr Andrew Trollope QC, Mr Ward's counsel, told the jury the case was "a gross slur on a highly respected and honest man who provided vital services towards a very vital business transaction. In a short statement to the jury at the end of the prosecution's opening of the case, Mr Trollope said Ward denied utterly "certain essential matters raised by the prosecution".

The trial was adjourned.

Merrett scores a first with corporate capital venture

By Sarah Bagnall

THE Merrett Group, the Lloyd's of London underwriting agency, has won the race to become the first company to set up a new insurance venture to access corporate capital. The company is hoping for initial capital of $70 million.

JP Morgan, the American investment bank, is offering 700,000 shares by way of a private placement to institutional investors and insurance companies. Dennis Purkiss, chief executive at Merrett, said: "We have every expectation of raising the full $70 million."

The possibility of attracting corporate capital to the 300-year-old insurance market was outlined in the Rowland task force report and was highlighted as a means of avoiding capacity shortages in the near future. The total capacity for the market has shrunk from £10 billion last year to an estimated £8.5-9 billion for the 1993 year of account.

Peter Middleton, the chief executive of Lloyd's, said that the future of the market depended on private and corporate capital.

The establishment of the company, which does not need DTI approval because its business is restricted to reinsurance, is expected to trigger a string of similar schemes.

The venture, which is registered in Bermuda for tax efficiency purposes, will provide quota-share reinsurance — a fixed proportion of any risk undertaken by the nine syndicates under Merrett's management.

The $70 million upper limit is determined by Lloyd's rules, introduced last year, which allow up to 25 per cent of a syndicate's capacity, above its stamp limit, to be ceded in quota-share reinsurance. The total stamp limit for the nine Merrett syndicates is estimated to be £400 million.

JP Morgan and Marsh McLennan Risk Capital Corporation, a company that specialises in new insurance ventures, are both investing about 10 per cent of the total funds raised — up to £7 million each.

For other investors, the minimum investment allowed is $1 million and must be committed for five years, for the underwriting years 1993 to 1997 inclusive.

As for all insurance companies, the liability of the investors will be restricted to the company's capital base, which will be able to expand if Merrett's overall underwriting capacity increases.

The larger investors in the company, which has started trading, will have representatives on the board. The company's auditors are KPMG Peat Marwick.

Mr Purkiss said that the new company would "add a further significant element of stability for the Merrett syndicates". He added that Merrett was looking into ways to allow consortia arrangements, whereby the Merrett syndicates write business on behalf of the company.

Quarter of NHL clients in arrears

By Jon Ashworth

THE average value of properties on the books of National Home Loans has plunged from £100,000 to £62,000 since 1989 and more than a quarter of its mortgage customers are in arrears. The mortgage lender, which made a record loss of £146 million in the year to September 1992, has said its financial situation remains critical.

Shareholders at NHL's annual meeting in London yesterday were told that "immeasurable" progress had been made towards putting the company on a sounder footing. However, it is unable to finance any new loans and is still one of the most expensive lenders on the market.

The total number of mortgage accounts declined from 69,800 to 58,200 over the year to September. Of those, 15,300 are in arrears and NHL has been unable to renegotiate payments with more than half of the customers who have fallen behind.

Recession fashions gloom at Jacques Vert

DES JENSON



Victims of vogue: recession has hurt the business of Malcolm Heald, left, Alan Green and Jack Cynamon, right

A GLOOMY warning that the City has underestimated the difficulties of the fashion retail trade and been too optimistic over Christmas trading has come from Jacques Vert, the womenswear group (Martin Waller writes).

Alan Green and Jack Cynamon, the joint chairmen, have expressed concern over prospects for the immediate future. A statement said: "The trading environment has continued to worsen since we announced our results in July, especially since Black Wednesday in September."

Malcolm Heald, the finance director, added: "I don't think that people have picked up on how poorly retail sales in ladies clothing have been around Christmas." The much-vaunted upturn in sales was primarily in consumer durables and the cheaper end of the clothing market, he said. "We're in a very small and defined sector which didn't pick up." The restructuring at Jacques Vert that involved the writing-off of a third of the company in the second half of the last financial year, however, contributed to a recovery in pre-tax profits to £186,000 in the six months to October 24, against a loss of £125,000 last time.

The interim dividend is halved to 1p — no final dividend was paid last year.

Mr Heald said the first week of the post-Christmas sales had gone well. But the second week, the first trading period of 1993, had been disappointingly below expectations, even though in line with the experiences of other fashion retailers. Worst hit have been the small independent boutiques. As a result, Jacques Vert is concentrating on opening more concessions within department stores, which have generally fared better.

Britannia cuts 560 jobs in shake-up

By Colin Narbrough

BRITANNIA Airways, determined to hold on to its position as Britain's biggest charter airline, unveiled plans to sharpen its competitiveness by cutting jobs and modernising its fleet.

The announcement, which caught the City off guard, said that 560 jobs would be shed, mainly among the airline's pilots and engineers at Luton airport. Its ageing fleet is to be reduced from 38 aircraft to 29 under a £250 million programme, with Boeing 757s replacing the present Boeing 737s. Rolls-Royce will supply the engines for the new 757s under a £40 million contract.

The Britannia development comes close on the heels of the £237 million bid by its rival Air Tours for Owners Abroad, whose combined strength as tour operators would increase the pressure on Britannia, owned by Thomson, Britain's leading tour operator.

Industry analysts have long considered Britannia a somewhat flabby company and have been expecting it to upgrade its fleet. The timing of the announcement was, however, seen to be linked to the recent jostling for places among the tour operators and the charter airlines in a market still dogged by overcapacity.

Some analysts believe the demise last year of Dan-Air, the charter airline, reduced the scope for independent tour operators to secure the commercial benefit of filling whole aircraft. Britannia's updating of its fleet is expected to reinforce this development, increasing the competitive advantage of the operators with their own aircraft.

Roger Burnell, Britannia's managing director, said the fleet modernisation would increase his airline's capacity by about 5 per cent, even though fewer aircraft would fly. He said redundancies would be carried out on a voluntary basis or through early retirement wherever possible. Britannia said its ground handling operation at Luton will be taken over by Serviceair.

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VW expected to accelerate job cutbacks

■ After more than a decade of expanding market share, Volkswagen is expected to take the knife to its costly investment programme to reduce costs

By Colin Narbrough, World Trade Correspondent

THE supervisory board of Volkswagen is expected today to approve swingeing cuts in the group's workforce to usher in a harsher era under the leadership of Ferdinand Piech, the new management board chairman.

About 30,000 jobs are to go by the end of 1994, primarily at VW's German plants. That represents an increase of 22,500 from job reduction plans previously disclosed. The workforce is now 273,000.

Dr Piech, who took over from Carl Hahn on January 1, earned a reputation for tough management at the helm on Audi, the high-performance car arm of VW. His arrival at VW is expected to bring more commercially logical, if unpopular, steps to address the group's key problem of high wage costs, especially at its German operations.

Industry sources in Hanover said yesterday that the extraordinary meeting of the board was not only set to approve an accelerated programme of job cuts at plants producing VWs, as opposed to other group marques, but was also planning to pare back vehicle production further.

For the current year, the board is expected to drop output to 3.2 million vehicles. That compares with its initial plans for 3.8 million, which had already been lowered to 3.5 million, in recognition of the weakening market, especially in Europe. Despite fears of recession in Germany, VW last year boosted total vehicle to 3.5 million from 3.1 million the year before. After more than a decade of expanding market share under Dr Hahn, industry analysts also expect Dr Piech to take the knife to VW's investment programme as part of a drive to get the group into a leaner, meaner shape, with the emphasis on reducing the burden that high German costs are putting on group profit.

The board meeting is awaited with trepidation in Wolfsburg, the Lower Saxony home town of VW, where the group has long been considered overmanned both on the shop floor and in terms of white-collar jobs. Speculation is that the heaviest cuts will come in Wolfsburg, where 60,000 are employed.

The attractiveness of the lower wages of Germany's immediate neighbours to the east has persuaded VW to tie up with Skoda, the Czech carmaker.

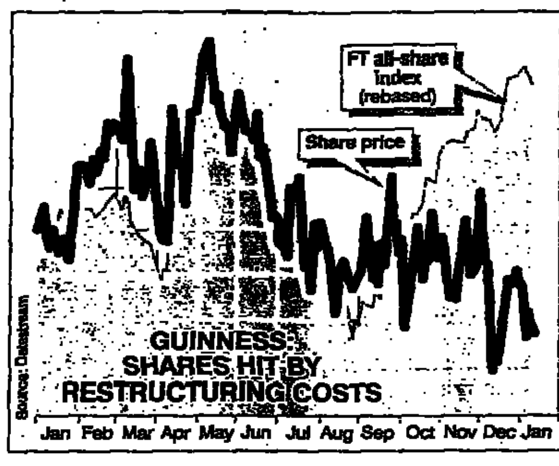
Audi has recently opted to build a motor plant in Hungary rather than in Germany. This shift of production is expected to continue under Dr Piech.

The extent of concern about the cost of car production in Germany was underlined by Daimler-Benz, producers of Mercedes Benz.

Addressing a conference in Detroit, Michael Bassermann, the Mercedes chief executive, said that America was now on a short list of sites for a future assembly plant. But he said that any decisionwould have to wait until after Mercedes had absorbed existing capacity.

STOCK MARKET

British Aerospace wilts on lack of contract news



THE bears started focusing their attention on **British Aerospace**, with the shares falling 9p to 176p on the continued absence of firm news about new contracts being awarded to the group.

Much of the damage to the share price was done on the traded options market where one institutional investor bought 1,000 put contracts, equivalent to 1 million shares. Buying the put indicates that this particular investor expects the price to continue falling during the next few months.

It had been hoped the group would finally announce before Christmas that it had been awarded a substantial part of the second phase of Saudi Arabia's Al Yamamah defence contract. No announcement has so far been made.

There has also been talk of the lucrative deal planned with Taiwan being signed this month, relating to the group's 146 jet. Once again, nothing has been announced.

Elsewhere, share prices continued their ragged retreat with investors taking a cautious look at short-term prospects for the economy and the equity market. The Bank of England added to the equity market's worries by announcing the latest gilt auction. Details have still to be released, but brokers expect the issue to raise between £2 billion and £3 billion, effectively starving the equity market of fresh funds.

As a result, a half-hearted attempt at a rally quickly fizzled out and futures-related selling left the FT-SE 100 index closing near the day's low, off 15.5 at 2,757.9. Trading remained thin with only 666 million shares changing hands. Brokers complained that institutions are liquidating existing positions to open new ones.

There was no shortage of institutional support for **Asda**, the supermarket chain, which continues to be viewed by fund managers as a strong takeover play. The price firmed 2¼p to 65¼p as more than 12 million shares changed hands. There was also heavy turnover in BT with 36 million shares traded as the price firmed 2p to 390p. **Thorn EMI** was a dull market, losing 11p at 840p after dealers learned that the chief executive officer of its Capitol-EMI music business in the US had resigned.

Rank Organisation also shed 10p at 701p as it continued to reiterate that it has no intention of disposing of Rank Films. Talk intensified of a big rights issue being launched any day. **Commercial Union**, tipped by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank, as the most likely company to ask shareholders for extra cash, rallied 2p to 620p.

But **Trafalgar House** slipped 1½p to 85½p with brokers claiming the group may soon need to ask for extra funds. On Thursday, shareholders at the annual meeting forced the board to conduct a poll on the reappointment of the company's auditors.

There was little good news for shareholders of **Ratners**, the troubled jewellery retailer, although the price managed to shrug off recent weakness to finish the session 1¼p dearer at 13p. The group says results for the year to January 30 will be broadly comparable to those achieved last time. Its US operations made another profitable contribution although the British end of the business remained in the red. Further provisions may be required. Trading in the run-up to Christmas was slower than expected although the performance in the final week improved.

Dixons, the high street retailer, was a nervous market before half-year figures today. These are expected to show pre-tax profits, excluding property disposals, down from £17.6 million to about £13 million.

News of a £125 million restructuring programme left **Guinness** 19p cheaper at 475p. The group plans to concentrate its scotch whisky packaging operations to three sites in central Scotland and realign its malt and grain distilling output to cater for future demand.

The move is expected to result in the loss of 700 jobs. There are also plans to restructure the group's Spanish brewing operations. The cost of the restructuring co-incided with a profits warning from LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, its French associate, with which it has a 24 per cent cross-holding.

Building suppliers were in the doldrums. **BPB Industries**, Britain's biggest plasterborad supplier, led the way lower with a fall of 13p to 187p amid growing concern about competition from Knauf, the German manufacturer, which plans to expand its plant in Kent to produce bagged plaster.

Losses were also recorded in **Blue Circle Industries**, 7p to 189p, **Hepworth**, 3p to 303p, **RMC Group**, 6p to 557p, **Redland**, 9p to 422p, and **Pilkington**, 2p to 106p.

MICHAEL CLARK

Shares in GWR Group, the USM-quoted independent radio contractor, rose 12p to 310p on the sale by Thames TV, unchanged at 159p, of its 9.5 per cent stake at 310p a share. Fund manager John Carrington is understood to have picked up 5.2 per cent of the West Country radio group, while Perpetual is believed to have taken 5 per cent.

WORLD MARKETS

Dow down slightly in early trading

New York — Shares were mixed in early trading as the Dow Jones industrial average eased 2 points to 3,260, though some issues were not open, including Eastman Kodak and General Electric.

□ **Tokyo** — The market ended firmer on index-linked buying on short-covering in futures. The Nikkei average rose 91.50 points to 16,681.05.

□ **Frankfurt** — German share prices closed mixed to weaker after a volatile session, but above the low points touched near the start of trading. The Dax index of 30 shares ended 1.77 points lower at 1,530.19.

□ **Sydney** — Uncertainty gripped the Australian market as investors waited for clear trends to emerge. The All-ordinaries index fell 4.7 points at 1,509.4.

□ **Hong Kong** — Prices held gains from renewed overseas interest in Hong Kong blue chips. The Hang Seng index rose 0.87 to 5,673.97.

□ **Singapore** — The market's undertone softened as sellers emerged, brokers said. The Straits Times industrial index closed at 1,545.02, up 1.06 points.

WALL STREET

	Jan 12 midday	Jan 11 close
AMP Inc	59¾	59¾
AMR Corp	68¼	69¼
Abbott Labs	28¼	28¾
Aetna Life	47¼	47¾
Ahmanson (HF)	18¼	18¾
Air Prod & Chem	47	47
Albertson's	48¼	48¾
Alcan Aluminum	17¼	18¼
Alco Standard	38	38¾
Allied Signal	59¼	58¾
Alum Co of Am	70¾	70¾
Amax	16½	16¼
Amerada Hess	44½	44
Amer Brands	37¾	37¾
Amer Cyanamid	56¼	55¾
Amer El Power	32¼	32¾
Amer Express	24¼	25
Amer Genl Corp	50¼	50¼
Amer Home Pr	66	65¾
Amer Intl	113¼	113¾
Amer Stores	41¾	41
Amer T & T	51¾	51¾
Ameritech	72½	71½
Amoco	48¼	48¼
Anheuser-Busch	58¼	57¼
Apple Computer	63¼	64¼
Archer Daniels	27¼	27¼
Asda	7¾	7¾
Armco	6½	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	31¾	31¼
Asarco	25½	26¼
Ashland Oil	27¾	27¾
Atl Richfield	109¼	109¾
Auto Data Prn	51	51¼
Avery Dennison	26¼	26¼
Avon Products	54¾	53½
Baker Hughes	18¼	18¾
Baltim Gas & El	23¾	23
Banc One	50¼	50¼
BankAmerica	45¾	45¾
Bank of NY	52¾	52¼
Bankers Tr NY	68¼	67¼
Barnett Banks	41¾	40¾
Bausch & Lomb	52¼	53¼
Baxter Intl	30¼	30¾
Bectn Dickinsn	78¼	77¼
Bell Atlantic	50¼	50¾
BellSouth	52¾	52¼
Black & Decker	19¾	19¼
Block (H&R)	39¾	38¼
Boeing	38¼	38¼
Boise Cascade	20½	20¼
Borden Inc	27¼	28¼
Bristol Myrs Sq	63¼	63¾
Browning Ferris	27¼	27¾
Burlington Nthn	43¾	43¼
CBS	194¼	193¾
CNA Financial	94¾	94¼
CPC Intl	47¼	47¾
CSX	71¾	72¾
Campbell Soup	41	40¼
Can Pacific	13	13
Cptl Cities ABC	492	490¾
Cptl Holdings	73¼	73¾
Carolina Pwr	54¾	54¼
Caterpillar	58¼	57¾
Central & SW	29	28¼
Champion Intl	27¼	27¼
Chase Manhat	28¼	28¾
Chemical Bk	38¼	38¾
Chevron Corp	69	69
Chrysler	34¼	36¼
Chubb Corp	85¼	84¼
Cigna Corp	57¼	57¾
Citicorp	21¾	21½
Clorox	45	45
Coastal Corp	24	23¼
Coca Cola	40¼	40¾
Colgate-Palmolive	55¾	55
Columbia Gas	18¼	18¾
Commonw Ed	24	24¼
Compaq Comp	50¼	50½
Comp Ass Intl	21	21¾
Conagra	31½	31¼
Cons Edison	32	32¾
Cons Nat Gas	43¼	43¾
Cons Rail	50¾	51
Cooper Inds	48¾	48¾
Corning Inc	38¾	38¾
Crown Cork	40¼	40¾
Dana Corp	48¾	48½
Dayton Hudson	74¾	74¾
Deere	44¼	44¼
Delta Air Lines	51¾	51¾
Deluxe Corp	46	45¾
Detroit Edison	32¾	32¼
Digital Equip	34¾	35¼
Dillard Dept St	48¾	48¾
Disney (Walt)	42¾	42¾
Dominion Res	39	38¼
Donelley (RR)	31½	31½
Dover Corp	46¼	46¼
Dow Chemicals	55¾	55½
Dow Jones	28¾	28¼
Dresser	17¾	17¾
Duke Power	35¾	35¾
Dun & Brdstreet	58¼	58¼
Du Pont	46¼	45¾
Eastman Kodak	47	45
Eaton Corp	80¼	80¾

	Jan 12 midday	Jan 11 close
Emerson Elec	56	55½
Engelhard Corp	35¼	35¾
Enron Corp	44¼	44¼
Entergy Corp	33¼	33¼
Ethyl Corp	20½	20½
Exxon	60¼	60¼
FMC Corp	51¼	51½
FPL Group	36½	36½
Federal Express	54¼	55
Fed Nat Mtge	77½	77½
First Chicago	37¾	36¼
First Interstate	47¼	46
First Union Rty	9¼	9¼
Fleet Fnl Grp	32¼	32¾
Fluor Corp	40	40
Ford Motor	45	45¼
GTE Corp	34¼	34½
Gannett	51½	52¼
Gap Inc Del	31½	31½
Gen Cinema	37¼	37½
Gen Dynamics	105	105¾
Gen Electric	84½	85
Gen Mills	67¼	67¼
Gen Motors	34¼	34
Gen Reinsurance	114½	115¼
Gen Signal	62½	62¾
Genuine Parts	34¼	34
Georgia Pac	59	59¼
Gillette	56½	55½
Glaxo ADR	22¼	23
Goodrich (BF)	51	50¾
Goodyear Tire	62¼	68
Grace (W&R)	39	39¼
Grt Atl Pac Tea	24	23¼
Great Wstn Fin	16¼	17
Halliburton	26½	26¼
Heinz (HJ)	42	41½
Hercules	64¼	64¼
Hershey Foods	47½	47
Hewlett Packard	72½	72¼
Hilton Hotels	45¼	45
Home Depot	64½	65¾
Homestake	10¼	10¼
Honeywell	34¼	33¼
Household Intl	56	58¼
Houston Inds	45¼	45¾
Humana	19¼	19¼
ITT Corp	70	70¼
Illinois Tool	65¾	66
INCO	22¼	22¾
Ingersoll Rand	31½	31½
Inland Steel	21½	21½
Intel Corp	102¼	102¾
IBM	49¾	47¾
Intl Flav & Fr	105	105½
Intl Paper	63	61
James River Va	18¼	18¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	47	46¼
K Mart	22¾	22¾
Kellogg	63½	63¾
Kerr-McGee	43¾	43¼
Kimberly-Clark	59¾	59¼
Knight-Ridder	59¾	59½
Lilly (Eli)	61	60¼
Limited Inc	28½	28½
LIN Brdcstng	77½	77½
Lincoln Nat	72½	72¾
Litton	46½	46½
Liz Claiborne	40¼	41
Lockheed Corp	55¼	55¾
Louisiana Pac	66½	65¼
MCI Commun	40¾	41½
Marriott	23½	23¾
Marsh & McLnn	89¾	89¼
Martin Marietta	67¼	65¾
Masco Corp	31	31½
May Dept St	69	68¼
Maytag Corp	14¾	14¼
McCaw Cellular	34¼	35¼
McDonalds	48¼	49¼
McDonnell D	53¼	52¼
McGraw Hill	60½	60
Mead Corp	38¼	38¾
Medtronic	91¼	90¼
Mellon Bk	57¼	51½
Melville Corp	53½	53¾
Merck Inc	42¼	43¼
Merrill Lynch	59¾	58¼
Minnesota Mine	98¼	99¼
Mobil Corp	63¾	63¼
Monsanto	53	52¼
Morgan (JP)	64¾	64
Motorola Inc	111¾	112¾
Natl Medical	10¾	10
Natl Semi	11½	11½
Natl Service Ind	27¾	27
Navistar Int	2¾	2¾
NBD Bancorp	32¼	32¾
NY Times A	27¾	27¾
Newmont Mng	39	39½
Niag Mohawk	19½	19¾
Nike B	81¾	81½
NL Industries	5¼	5½
Nordstrom	39½	39¼
Norfolk Sthrn	62½	63
Nthn State Pwr	42¼	43
Norwest Corp	41½	41¾
Nynex Corp	84¼	84¼
Occidental Pet	17¾	17¾
Ohio Edison	22½	22¾

	Jan 12 midday	Jan 11 close
Oracle Systems	38¼	39½
Oryx Energy Co	17¾	18¼
PNC Financial	28½	29¼
PPG Industries	65¼	65¼
Paccar Inc	58	58½
Pacificorp	19¼	19¼
Pac Enterprises	19¼	19¼
Pac Gas & Elect	32¼	32¼
Pac Telesis	43¼	43¾
Pall Corp	19½	19½
Panhandle East	17¼	17¾
Paramnt Comm	42½	42¼
Parker Hannifin	31¼	31¾
Penney (JC)	72½	73¼
Pennzoil	48¼	49¼
Pepsico	38¼	38¾
Pfizer	68¼	68
Phelps Dodge	48¼	49¼
Philadel Elec	25¼	25¼
Philip Morris	74½	74¼
Phillips Pet	24¼	25¼
Pitney Bowes	67¼	67¼
Polaroid	29¼	29½
Price Co	38¼	38½
Primerica	49¼	48¾
Procter & Gmbl	49¼	49½
Pub Serv E & G	30¾	30½
Quaker Oats	63¼	63½
Ralston Purina	45¾	46½
Raychem Corp	39¼	39¾
Raytheon	51½	51¾
Reebok Intl	33½	33¼
Reynolds Metals	57¼	57¼
Roadway Srvcs	62¼	62¾
Rockwell Intl	28¾	28¼
Rohm & Haas	54¼	54
Royal Dutch	79¾	80¼
Rubbermaid	30¾	31¼
Safeco Corp	58	58
St Paul's Cos	77¼	77¼
Salomon Inc	32¼	32¾
Santa Fe S Pac	13½	14
Sara Lee Corp	27¼	28
Scecorp	41	41¼
Schering Plough	60¼	60¼
Schlumberger	58¼	55¾
Scott Paper	34¼	35¼
Seagram	24¼	25
Sears Roebuck	44¾	44½
Shell Trans	40	40¼
Sherwin Wllms	30¼	30¼
Skyline Corp	21¼	21
Snap-On-Tools	31½	31½
Southern Co	37¾	37¾
Sthwestern Bell	73½	72¼
Sprint Corp	26½	25¾
Stanley Works	41¼	41½
Sun Company	27¼	27¾
Suntrust	43¾	42¼
Supervalu	33¼	32¼
Syntex Corp	22¾	22¼
Sysco Corp	25¼	26
TRW Inc	56½	56½
Tandem Comp	16	16¼
Tandy Corp	28¾	29¼
Telecom Corp	2¼	2
Teledyne	19¼	19½
Temple Inland	49	48¼
Tenneco	40¼	40¼
Texaco	58¼	58½
Texas Instr	33¾	33¾
Texas Utilities	42¾	42
Textron	43¼	44¾
Time Warner	30¼	30¼
Times-Mirror	30½	30¼
Timken	27¼	27¾
Torchmark	56	56¾
Toys R Us	38¼	37¾
Transamerica	46½	46¼
Travelers Corp	20½	20¾
Tribune	48¼	49¼
Tyco Labs	42¼	42¼
UAL Corp	129¾	131¼
UST Inc	30¾	30½
USX Marathon	16¼	16¾
Unilever NV	102¾	103
Union Camp	44¾	44¼
Union Carbide	16½	16½
Union Pacific	60¾	60½
Unisys Corp	11	10¾
USAIR Group	14¼	14¼
USF&G Corp	12½	12¾
US Life	37¼	37¾
US West	38¾	38¼
United Tech	48	48¼
Unocal Corp	23½	23¾
Upjohn	30¼	30¾
VF Corp	54¼	54¾
Wal-Mart Stores	58¾	59
Warner-Lambert	67½	66½
Waste Mgmnt Inc	39	39¼
Wells Fargo	78½	77¼
Westinghouse El	14¾	14¼
Weyerhaeuser	37¾	37¾
Whirlpool	43¼	43¼
Whitman	14¾	14¼
Winn Dixie	76½	76¼
Woolworth	28¼	28¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	31½	32¼
Xerox	84½	83¼

Packaging groups face fines

From Tom Walker in Brussels

THE EC is threatening packaging groups with big fines after allegations of price fixing made by the British Printing Industry Federation.

A federation spokesman said he was "delighted at the most welcome progress" made by the EC commission into how companies such as Stora of Sweden and Mayr-Melnhof of Austria price carton-board products.

The EC carton-packaging market is valued at about £2 billion.

British subsidiaries of the companies involved could be affected by any decision taken by the commission, whose biggest fine on any company to date was the £53 million imposed on the Swiss-Swedish Tetrapak for "abuse of a dominant market position."

Stora has a unit in Nottingham, Kopparfos, and Cascades, the Canadian group, also subject to the commission's enquiry, has two British units, at Croydon and Hull.

Anglian to help Argentine water flow

By Colin Campbell

ANGLIAN Water, a 5 per cent shareholder in a consortium that won a 30-year contract in South America, is to help modernise and run water services in Buenos Aires.

The consortium is lead by Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumez of France and includes one Spanish and three Argentine companies. The Anglian-associated consortium beat off tenders from consortiums that included Thames Water and North West Water.

Capital investment over the life of the Buenos Aires contract is expected to be £2.6 billion. The consortium will take over Obras Sanitarias de la Nación, which is responsible for water and sewerage services for 6 million people.

Anglian will be given a board seat and assume a management role, and expects an early pay-back from its involvement, very probably within the first year. Jim Adams, managing director of Anglian Water International, says this is the first of what be expects to be many ventures into the international market.

Anglian's other South American interest is a joint venture consultancy in Brazil. The group will now pursue other international opportunities, said Alan Smith (right), group managing director.

Anglian shares were unchanged at 479p.

Meanwhile, Thames Water is buying Simon Engineering's environmental division for £14.2 million in cash, and will assume debts of £6 million in a move that the group says "completes the jigsaw".

Mike Hoffman, the chief executive, says the acquisition completes the group's plan for full capability in water engineering activities. The acquired businesses, which employ 560 people, had net assets at December 31, 1991, of £9.1 million.

The business being bought include Simon-Hartley, based in Britain, and four companies operating in America. Simon Engineering said the sale would reduce gearing by about £20 million, and that it was well advanced in negotiations on other disposals. Simon shares rose 11p to 121p. Thames Water shares fell 3p to 490p.



Bank of China to issue HK notes

From Lulu Yu in Hong Kong

THE Bank of China is to become the third note-issuing bank in Hong Kong, starting in May next year.

The move underlines the rising influence of Chinese institutions in the countdown to 1997, when Peking resumes sovereignty over the colony. The bank, with its dagger-shaped, 70-storey building towering over the Central business district, is China's most visible symbol of authority in Hong Kong.

It is expected to replace the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank as a power centre in the running of the territory. But it will not in the short term take over the quasi-central banking role of Hongkong Bank.

The bank will continue to perform its clearing function, and, with Standard Chartered Bank, print most of Hong Kong's banknotes. The Bank of China will issue about HK$6 billion (£500 million), or 10 per cent, of the bank notes next year, reducing Hongkong Bank's total from 85 to 75 per cent. Standard Chartered will print the remaining 15 per cent. By 1996, the Bank of China's market share will increase to a quarter, reducing Hongkong Bank's to 60 per cent.

The Bank of China is Peking's main foreign exchange bank and plays a key role in vetting and financing foreign investment projects. It has 300 branches in Hong Kong.

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:		Guinness	473p (-21p)
Barbour Index	283p (+8p)	Geest	380p (-12p)
Liberty	565p (+15p)	BM Group	61p (-12p)
WH Smith 'A'	465p (+9p)	Eng China Clays	449p (-18p)
Pifco	415p (+10p)	Glaxo	723p (-17p)
Simon Eng	121p (+11p)	BPB Ind	187p (-13p)
Ash & Lacy	163p (+11p)	Wilson Bowden	379p (-10p)
Alumasc	450p (+17p)	ICI	1087p (-11p)
FALLS:		Misys	365p (-10p)
Lloyds	506p (-12p)	THORN EMI	840p (-11p)
Rank Org	701p (-10p)		
Wellcome	913p (-12p)		

Closing Prices Page 26

RECENT ISSUES

Critchley Group (220)	264	+4
Foreign & Col PEP Inv Tst 105		+1
Hoare Govett Smlr Index 106		+1
Hunters Armley (90)	111	...
Intl Food Machinery (51)	63	...
Jos Holdings Capital	38	-1
Jos Holdings Income	94	...
Jos Zero Div Pf	111	-½
National Express (165)	193	...
OIS Intl Inspection (50)	55	...
Prime People Warrants	1½	...
Second Consolidated Tst	88	...
Tadpole Technology (65)	177	-7

RIGHTS ISSUES

Hillclare n/p (35)	3	...
Lonrho n/p (85)	¼	...
Melville n/p (5)	½	...
Property Trust p/p (25)	15	-1
Regal Hotel n/p (2)	1¼	...
Trio Holdings n/p	14	...

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West Trust plans to add spice to group

WEST Trust, the specialist textiles company, is asking shareholders for fresh funds to help buy Veeraswamy's (Food Products) for £750,000 (*Philip Pangalos writes*).

Veeraswamy, which makes spices, made pre-tax profits of £73,000 in the year to end-March on turnover of £1.14 million. The vendors have warranted pre-tax profits of at least £150,000 for the year to end-March 1993, before certain non-recurring costs.

To fund the purchase, West is looking to raise £950,000 through a two-for-nine rights issue, at 3p a share, underwritten by Bell Lawrie White. West also reported pre-tax profits of £25,000 (£36,000) in the six months to end-September, on turnover of £3.76 million (£7.74 million). There is again no interim dividend, but the company anticipates paying a maintained final of 0.25p. Earnings per share were 0.02p (0.06p restated).

BRITISH FUNDS

Bond prices had the skids placed under them in late trading by the announcement of the latest gilt auction by the Bank of England.

The issue is expected to be pitched between the redemption dates of 2005 and 2013 and is likely to raise between £2 billion and £3 billion. Final details of the issue will be released next Tuesday, when trading will begin on a "when issued" basis. The auction will be on January 27. News of this latest auction had not come as a surprise but prices at the longer end saw early gains wiped out.

On the futures market, the March series of the long gilt finished 11 ticks lower at £99½, having touched a high for the day of £100¼.

In longs, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 fell seven ticks to £100^15/16, while in shorts Exchequer 9¾ per cent eased to £109½.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
100	95	Fund 6% 1993	99	+	6.01	6.23
100	97	Treas 8¼% 1993	100	...	8.24	6.71
101	99	Treas 10% 1993	100	...	9.93	6.86
104	100	Treas 12½% 1993	102	...	12.14	6.59
107	103	Treas 13¾% 1993	105	...	12.98	6.55
102	96	Treas 8½% 1994	101	...	8.34	6.55
104	96	Treas 9% 1994	103	+	8.66	6.74
105	98	Treas 10% 1994	104	...	9.57	6.64
110	105	Exch 12½% 1994	108	...	11.51	6.77
110	103	Exch 13½% 1994	108	...	12.46	6.69
110	104	Treas 14½% 1994	108	...	13.37	6.68
95	88	Gas 3% 1990-95	94	...	3.17	5.36
109	99	Exch 10¼% 1995	107	+	9.52	6.89
111	102	Treas 12% 1995	109	+	10.95	6.88
116	106	Treas 12¾% 1995	114	+	11.12	6.98
104	96	Treas 9% 1992-96	100	...	8.99	7.07
110	98	Conv 10% 1996	109	+	9.17	7.27
119	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	117	+	11.32	7.42
119	109	Treas 14% 1996	117	+	11.86	7.36
125	113	Treas 15¼% 1996	122	...	12.42	7.36
112	100	Exch 10½% 1997	110	+	9.48	7.40
121	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	119	...	11.07	7.52
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
107	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	105	+	8.28	7.31
131	117	Exch 15% 1997	129	+	11.62	7.45
99	86	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	98	−	6.88	7.22
111	97	Exch 9¾% 1998	109	...	8.90	7.45
121	107	Exch 12% 1998	118	−	10.11	7.95
137	123	Treas 15½% 1998	134	−	11.52	7.88
111	97	Treas 9½% 1999	108	...	8.75	7.70
115	100	Conv 10¼% 1999	112	−	9.11	7.87
116	101	Treas 10½% 1999	113	−	9.22	7.82
123	109	Exch 12¼% 1999	120	−	10.19	8.05
108	94	Conv 9% 2000	106	−	8.49	7.89
128	114	Treas 13% 2000	125	−	10.38	8.37
113	99	Treas 10% 2001	109	...	9.10	8.30
128	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	125	−	11.12	7.97
111	98	Treas 9¾% 2002	108	−	8.99	8.47
113	100	Treas 10% 2003	110	−	9.09	8.57
69	59	Fund 3½% 1999-04	68	−	5.14	7.77
109	96	Conv 9½% 2004	106	−	8.95	8.67
120	107	Treas 11½% 2001-04	116	...	9.84	8.61
109	96	Conv 9½% 2005	106	−	8.94	8.69
128	116	Treas 12½% 2003-05	124	−	10.05	8.94
LONGS (over 15 years)						
97	85	Treas 8% 2002-06	94	−	8.43	8.71
100	89	Treas 8½% 2007	97	−	8.71	8.82
122	110	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	118	−	9.90	8.90
104	93	Treas 9% 2008	101	−	8.87	8.83
135	123	Treas 13½% 2004-08	131	−	10.26	8.96
95	85	Treas 8% 2009	92	−	8.65	8.89
103	93	Conv 9% 2011	100	−	8.92	8.91
72	62	Treas 5½% 2008-12	70	−	7.82	8.68
92	81	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	89	−	8.64	8.83
130	118	Exch 12% 2013-17	128	−	9.50	9.17
UNDATED						
29	24	Consols 2½%	29	+	8.57	...
29	24	Treas 2½%	27	−	8.95	...
35	29	Treas 3%	33	−	8.84	...
63	59	Conv 3½%	61	+	5.67	...
45	39	Consols 4%	44	−	9.03	...
40	35	War Ln 3½%	39	...	8.97	...
INDEX-LINKED						
132	122	Treas IL 2% 1994	132	−	0.49	2.27
197	176	Treas IL 2% 1996	194	−	2.15	2.82
162	139	Treas IL 2½% 2001	159	−	3.31	3.64
158	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	155	−	3.42	3.69
162	137	Treas IL 2% 2006	159	−	3.54	3.75
147	124	Treas IL 2½% 2009	144	−	3.67	3.86
152	129	Treas IL 2½% 2011	149	−	3.69	3.86
126	106	Treas IL 2½% 2013	123	−	3.72	3.88
133	112	Treas IL 2½% 2016	131	−	3.74	3.89
128	107	Treas IL 2½% 2020	125	−	3.78	3.91
106	88	Treas IL 2½% 2024	103	−	3.81	3.93

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Britain gets another chance to embrace clean coal technology

Patricia Tehan looks at the commercial success of an idea that was developed but then abandoned by British Coal

A Swedish manufacturer has achieved commercial success with an idea for clean coal technology that was developed, but then abandoned, by British Coal. If British Coal is to have a long-term future, the use of such a technology to supply Britain's power needs is critical.

The technology has suffered from a lack of interest and piecemeal funding. ABB Carbon, a Swedish company owned by Asea Brown Boveri, of Switzerland, has three plants running, in Sweden, America and Spain, and further orders from Japan and the Czech Republic. It is now looking for partners to sell its pressurised fluidised bed combined-cycle technology back to British electricity generators.

Work on the technology began at Leatherhead, Surrey, in 1968 — the idea of Douglas Elliott and Raymond Hoy of the British Coal Utilisation Research Association. A test plant was set up at Grimethorpe colliery, near Barnsley. However, work on the plant stopped in March last year. To date, neither the generators nor the government have come up with the £200 million funding needed to turn the most promising of its findings into a working power station.

Lack of interest is the story of Grimethorpe's life, with researchers constantly scavenging for funds. Krishna Pillai, who was on the original research team with Dr Elliott and Mr Hoy in Leatherhead, said: "The whole decision-making process at Grimethorpe has been from day-to-day without any real target. The work drifted from the end of one project to the beginning of the next."

Initial funding for the work came from the coal board. The work led to the operation of the first PFBC in 1969, albeit on a pilot scale. The researchers worked throughout the 1970s, financed by contract research and development funds from British, German, Swedish and US governments, utilities and manufacturers.

Mr Pillai said the project's main problem from the UK's point of view was the lack of interest from potential customers. Sweden's Stal-Laval, which became ABB Carbon, was involved from the project's early days.

Dr Hoy said that at the end of 1970 the Central Electricity Generating Board did not see any future in the PFBC concept and the researchers at the association "were left hanging in space". The UK National Research Development Corporation stepped in with support, and BP provided contracts for research work that enabled the project to continue.

American money financed the project later and, in 1976, the International Energy Agency came into being and sponsored a plan to build an experimental 80mw plant at Grimethorpe, with funding from America, West Germany and the UK. The CEGB did not show interest until much later. In the 1970s, it was single-minded in its efforts to build up its nuclear programme.

In 1980, work on the PFBC technology split. Stal-Laval decided to build its own demonstration plant. The process had been shown to be feasible, but, Mr Pillai said, there was no manufacturer or customer in the UK "prepared to take it and run with it to make it commercial". Stal-Laval began designing a test facility in Malmö, southern Sweden. Mr Pillai said: "The frustrating thing in the UK at the end of the 1970s was that there was no customer. No manufacturer would go in if there was no customer."



Digging deep: coal handling at Stockholm Energi is in a cavern that stores half a year's supply

Work on the clean coal test plant continued at Grimethorpe, supported by the IEA, until 1984. By then, researchers had proved that the basic concept worked when scaled up, but there were still problems to overcome. It was only at this stage that the CEGB began to show interest. It jointly funded the next stage of the work at Grimethorpe with the NCB. Three years later, the CEGB dropped out, won over by low-interest, long-term government grants to the idea of building a giant 4000mw Drax coal-fired station near Selby, Yorkshire, and by the prospect of building new gas-fired plants. By contrast, three potential customers supported Stal-Laval's work in Sweden: Stockholm Energi, AEP of the America, and Endesa of Spain. Mr Pillai moved to Sweden in 1984 just before the Leatherhead unit closed. He was followed by five of the engineers from Grimethorpe. He said the difference between the experimental work at Grimethorpe and the Malmö plant was that ABB's data-gathering days were over, the plant had entered its commercial phase and all energy was put into making it work and bringing costs down to a level that its customers could live with. Stockholm Energi is running a 135mw plant in Stockholm. AEP has a 70mw demonstration plant running in Tidd, Ohio, and Endesa has a 70mw plant in Escatron, Spain. ABB says Stockholm now has the world's cleanest coal-fired power. The plant generates about 70 per cent of Stockholm's combined heat and power requirements. The plant, ordered in 1987 and commissioned in 1990, had its first commercial year in 1991. It is the most advanced of its kind. It is close to one of Stockholm's most desirable residential areas which means noise levels and gas emissions must be kept to an absolute minimum. Before combustion, the coal is crushed and mixed to a paste with limestone and water. The limestone captures about 99 per cent of the sulphur released by the coal, dramatically reducing the level of damaging sulphur emmissions. The paste is pumped into the fluidised bed and burnt at a temperature of 850° C, just over half the temperature of conventional coal-fired plants. The lower temperature means lower emissions of nitrogen oxide. The success of the projects in Sweden, America and Spain has led to growing interest in Japan and competition. Rivals are snapping at ABB's heels, but it has a few years' lead on Mitsubishi and Hitachi which are racing to build plants using PFBC technology in Japan.

> 'The key issue is finding a customer and persuading the government to look ahead.'

The main emphasis in Grimethorpe's later work was the development of second-generation plant in which higher power-generating efficiency is achieved by "topping", or superimposing, a partial gasification stage on the combustion system, thereby enabling higher gas turbine temperatures to be used. A Coal Research Association spokesman said he hoped it would not be too late to catch the next boat with this work.

The DTI is considering proposals to build a 75mw demonstration gasification plant. The proposals are supported by GEC Alsthom and PowerGen, the smaller of the two generators of England and Wales. If it gets the go-ahead, the plant would be built in three to four years, with a view to building a commercial plant early in the next century.

Siemens and Shell, its partner; GEC Alsthom and others are working on rival gasification projects, with demonstration plants due to come into operation in the mid 1990s. Meanwhile, ABB still holds the lead.

Mr Pillai said the UK now had a second chance to get in on the ground floor of clean coal technology, "an opportunity to finally give the Grimethorpe project some direction".

ABB has approached Babcock Energy, a subsidiary of Babcock International, to be a possible partner in the UK. It provided some of the early funding for the work in Britain.

ABB has given itself six months to find a market for its British-designed plant in Britain. In ABB's ideal world, Mr Pillai said, the government would accept coal as a long-term fuel supply and would recognise the need for clean coal power plants. He hopes a manufacturer will line up; British Coal will offer the coal at world market prices; and generating customers will come forward.

Mr Pillai said if the clean coal were to have a role in the UK, operators needed hands-on experience now. ABB was keen to find a UK partner to manufacture its plants under licence, but the key issue was finding a customer and persuading the government to look ahead.

TEMPUS

Guinness feels the draught

HOW fortunate for Tony Greener, the new chairman of Guinness, that during his first fortnight in office he has been able to announce a £125 million exceptional provision that will flatter the group's bottom line for the next three years.

There seems little rationale behind Guinness's announcement of its rationalisation plans yesterday, unless the group enjoys seeing more than £409 million wiped off its stock market value in an afternoon. The actual cash outflow for the reorganisation will be £90 million — spread over the next three years — which the group could easily have included in its running costs. Even the modest job cuts will not be complete until the end of 1994.

Coincidentally, under new accounting standards this is the last time the group will be able to use exceptional provisions in this way in its accounts.

The inefficiencies in Distillers ran deep, and it is not surprising that the group needs to close one grain distillery, four tiny malt distilleries and four bottling plants. World whisky consumption is static and unlikely to improve in the short term. In a mature market, Guinness is trying to exploit economies of scale as would any half-decent manufacturer.

The group's Spanish brewing activities are more problematic. The rationalisation of Union Cervecera, the 1991 acquisition, with Cruzcampo, the larger brewer, has been traumatic and exacerbated by a surprising 7.5 per cent fall in the country's beer consumption.

The City was not a little perturbed by Mr Greener's revelations. Analysts had only just put the finishing touches to an earlier profit downgrade. A year ago, they were expecting Guinness to join the £1 billion club in 1992 with profits of £1.07 billion. Including the provision, this forecast has been cut to less than £800 million.

Nevertheless, Guinness has strong brands in generally resilient markets. The City will soon forgive Mr Greener his opening fanfare, particularly when the benefits of his foresight begin to accrue.

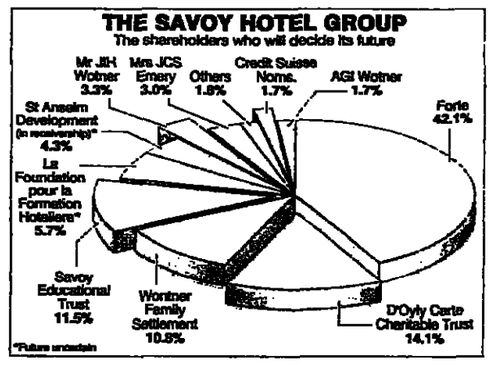
The Savoy Hotel

THE future of The Savoy Hotel is back in the melting pot, since two stakes carrying more than 10 per cent of the company's votes appear to be up for grabs.

The City is waiting for Forte to pounce, but it ignores changes in both Forte's fortunes and the whole of London's luxury hotel business since the two companies signed a truce. Today, Rocco Forte would be smarter to sell rather than buy.

For a start, Forte cannot increase its 42 per cent voting stake in the Savoy until 1994 under the terms of its 1989 agreement.

The group may have rosy visions of merging its Exclusive Hotels, the Hyde Park and the Grosvenor House with the Savoy group and selling a half share to an overseas investor for £250 million or more, but the scheme is beset with uncertainties, and the Savoy management is unlikely to come like a lamb to the carvery.



If Forte sold its stake instead, it would inject up to £200 million into a balance sheet weighed down with debts of about £1.2 billion, even after the management buyout of Gardner Merchant.

A buyer could take control of the Savoy by buying the remaining shares from the receivers of St Anselm Development and La Fondation pour la Formation Hotelier.

Forte could console itself that London's luxury hotels no longer produce luxury profits, since such newcomers as the Langham and the Lanesborough opened for business. In any case, all it has to lose is its pride.

Dixons

STANLEY Kalms is greatly exercised about the threat to his Dixons Group from the appliance retailing arms of the privatised electricity distributors. His temper will not be improved by signs that the Office of Fair Trading and the power industry's own regulator have been playing pass-the-parcel with his complaint.

Dixons has the chance to elaborate on this grievance at its interim figures today. Broadly, Mr Kalms is claiming that the distributors' retail businesses, and in particular the powerful Eastern-Southern-Midlands axis, are able to soak up damage in today's trading environment because this merely shaves, at worst, a couple of million of pounds off profit and loss accounts that are swollen by guaranteed income from the distributors' monopoly business of providing electricity to people's homes.

Set aside, for now, the continuing argument over electricity profits — as well the strange sight of the man who a few years ago was eager to combine Currys, Dixons, Comet and Woolworth under one corporate roof now beating a path to the OFT.

Collections of disparate businesses supporting each other through good times or bad are already well enough accepted in the City — they are known as conglomerates. Is there that much difference between London Electricity keeping open its ailing retail operation and, for example, Trafalgar House nursing its battered housebuilding business through the recession with profits from engineering?

Ratners

YESTERDAY'S trading statement from Ratners provides little relief for the group's long-suffering shareholders and bankers.

The results for the year to the end of January are likely to show a similar loss, before exceptional charges, to last year of about £24 million.

Admittedly Ratners is still in the fray only by courtesy of its bankers, but it is not necessarily out for the count. Sales may be down because of reduced discounting, but margins are up — with an increase of more than 20 per cent in the United Kingdom in December. Even after paying suppliers, the group expects to use only £250 million of its £400 million banking facilities. The last, but vital, piece of the jigsaw that still eludes Ratners is getting customers through the doors.

This was not the recovery the banks had hoped for, but they are unlikely to pull the plug.

Insurance

ANY institutional investors desperate to capture a piece of the unbelievable returns available from the Lloyd's reinsurance market now have an opportunity. The decision by Merrett, the underwriting agency, to team up with Marsh McLennan and JP Morgan to create a $70 million reinsurance vehicle in Bermuda is an early answer to the call in the Rowland Task Force Report for corporate capital. Morgan and Marsh McLennan are investing at least $14 million of their own, which is a good sign. Participating institutions will still take comfort from not being asked to bear unlimited liability, unlike other Merrett names.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Pictet post for Johnson

ASSOCIATIONS with Robert Maxwell seem to have done no harm to the career prospects of Nicholas Johnson, formerly chief executive of Invesco MIM, the fund management group. Johnson has just been appointed chief investment officer at the London office of Pictet, the Swiss merchant bank, and started work there on Monday. Maxwell, some of you may recall, once held shares in Invesco, which managed part of the Mirror Group pension fund, and Johnson says he met Maxwell twice. "His office was like the court of Henry VIII. There were crowds of people waiting to see him, as he swept in and out. My appointment was at 9.30, and I didn't get in until after 12." Pictet, the largest independent Swiss bank, is wholly-owned by its partners and specialises in institutional investment management. Johnson first met senior family member Charles Pictet at a dinner party last year, but only decided to join Pictet after subsequent disagreements about Invesco's management structure.

Passage to India

A RECONNAISSANCE trip to India, to convince his wife that it would be an enjoyable place for them and their children to live for a couple of years, while he sets up an office there for Crédit Lyonnaise Securities, has gone somewhat awry for Mark Shirley. They left London for Bombay on Sunday evening but instead of exploring the sights of the city last night, he and his wife were holed up in an hotel after the imposition of a curfew. Meanwhile back at Crédit Lyonnaise in London, Russell Middleton, ex-James Capel and Capel-Cure Myers, and a specialist in the Indian market, who joined the firm on Monday, was similarly questioning *his* timing. The Indian stock market is closed because of the curfew. "My timing has been appalling," Middleton rues. "The first time I had a fund up and running Gandhi got assassinated and now that I have started trying to get some new issues away, the Hindus and Moslems have started shooting each other in the streets of Bombay. We will just have to wait for things to cool down."

Same old story

Lord Sainsbury criticised the accuracy of government forecasts yesterday. Opening the new London Weather Centre, he recounted the tale of how the first official weather forecast, issued by the Treasury in



"Earning £34 million a year — what's wrong with the speed we are working at?"

1524, proved totally wrong. "On February 1, they said the Thames would flood and 10,000 homes would be submerged. As a result, the whole population along the river fled to the slopes of Hampstead and Highgate. But when they returned to their homes 24 hours later they found that nothing had happened. The accuracy of Treasury forecasts remains the same today and can produce a lot of misery in the process."

Busy chaps

SINGER & Friedlander, the merchant bank, has formed a subsidiary to be headed by the established team of Timothy Lyons and Jonathan Stolerman. Called Singer & Friedlander Capital Markets it will specialise in structured finance, which Lyons describes as "finding unique solutions to credit problems." The new subsidiary is part of S&F's policy of attracting "bolt-on" specialist teams to complement its core merchant banking business. S&F chief executive John Hodson says: "I am delighted Timothy and Jonathan have decided to join us. They have an impressive track record in the generation of attractive solutions for issuer and investor requirements in all the major international markets and in structuring highly effective cross-border transactions." Stolerman has an accountancy background, and Lyons is a corporate financier. They first met five years ago at Prudential-Bache, and subsequently moved to Hoare Govett. "The team is his brains and my experience," says Lyons modestly. He adds that the pair spend so much time working together they rarely want to see each other socially. "The only thing we have in common is having children. We have four each now. It's usually Jonathan who raises the stakes, so I'm looking to him to make the next move."

CAROL LEONARD

BUSINESS LETTERS

Poor handling of Ecclesiastical bid

From J. Sherbrooke

Sir, You have had two short paragraphs about the bid by Ecclesiastical Insurance Office for the St Andrews Trust. It is extraordinary that an insurance company should bid in this way, particularly, as your latest para maintained, with the very short number of working days within which to contemplate the bid, which reached me on Dec 21, just as I was about to go away for Christmas. The first day on which a letter after that could be posted was Dec 29, which the chairman tells me only reached him on Jan 5 due to the Scottish holiday.

My first fury was mollified by your first para saying that Cazenove were advising the other directors, but when the next missive was received under the signature of the chairman, who is not losing his job, not a word was said about the considerable objections to the bid other than that it was 6 per cent below the net value.

I hope that you will give some publicity to the appalling way in which this bid has been made and the response to it.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. SHERBROOKE,
Churchen Green, East Morden, Wareham, Dorset.

Hoverspeed is a ferry fast competitor

From Mr W. T. Moses.

Sir, I refer to the letter in 'The Times' Business Letters section of Friday, January 8, from Ian Todd of P&O European Ferries.

While not wishing to enter into the cauldron of claims and counter claims between P&O and Sealink, regarding who carries three times more than whom, I would like to correct one piece of misinformation which did appear in the letter referred to.

There are in fact FOUR competitors at Dover including Hoverspeed. We have been operating hovercraft for over 25 years and more recently introduced the SeaCat catamaran technology on cross-Channel routes.

As well as being the world's leading fast ferry operator, we enjoyed our best ever year on the short sea routes in 1992 — carrying nearly 2 million passengers — gaining market share from all THREE competitors.

Significantly, following P&O's announcement of ending the Dover-Boulogne route, Hoverspeed is now the sole operator to the port of Boulogne with the SeaCat service from Folkestone.

Clearly, this advantageous position, in addition to our popular hovercraft route from Dover to Calais, means that we intend to go for promotion up the cross-Channel league table in 1993 and beyond.

Meanwhile, we are quite happy to claim to be the leading fast ferry operator from Dover.

Yours faithfully,
W. T. MOSES,
Managing Director,
Hoverspeed Ltd,
International Hoverport,
Dover,
Kent.

Tackling the confusion over value-added tax liability in Europe

From Mr Tony McClenaghan

Sir, I can well understand the confusion experienced by Ms Carol Speed (Business Letters, January 11) in trying to work out the VAT liability of the services which her company supplies in the single market.

The main cause of this confusion is the decision by Customs and Excise to implement a technical change in the rules for zero-rating services supplied to customers in the EC. This change is not connected with the single market as such and has not been very widely publicised. At present, a business in the UK which supplies advertising, consultancy or professional services to customers in the EC can do so without charging VAT, provided the customer receives the services for the purposes of his business. If the service is provided to a private individual in another member state then the service is liable to UK VAT at 17.5 per cent.

However Customs and Excise have now imposed an additional requirement before businesses such as Ms Speed's can supply services to their EC customers free of UK VAT. In future, the services will be free of VAT only if the customer is registered for VAT in another member state of the EC and his VAT number is shown on the sales invoice issued by the UK company. If the customer is not registered for VAT elsewhere in the EC or, if the VAT number is not shown on the invoice, then, according to Customs and Excise, UK VAT must be charged. The good news is that the implementation of this requirement has been delayed until July 1, 1993. What this means in practice is that Ms Speed and other businesses which supply consultancy-type services to business customers in the EC can maintain their current VAT treatment for the time being and they have six months in which to collect the VAT registration numbers of their EC customers. From July 1, if they do not show their EC customer's VAT number on their sales invoice, then they must charge UK VAT.

Yours faithfully,
Tony McClenaghan
(Partner) Touche Ross & Co,
Hill House,
1 Little New Street, EC4A

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Trans World	Leisure	
2	Lister	Textiles	
3	Shaftesbury	Property	
4	Reckitt Colm	Industrial	
5	Paterson Zoch	Chems,Plas	
6	Morland	Breweries	
7	Smithkline	Industrial	
8	Nestor-BNA	Industrial	
9	Penna	Business Serv	
10	Ald Leis	Leisure	
11	Kleinwort Ben	Banks,Disc	
12	Eldridge P 'A'	Breweries	
13	RCO	Business Serv	
14	Ryl Bk Scot	Banks,Disc	
15	Devenish (JA)	Breweries	
16	Utd Friendly	Insurance	
17	Siebe	Industrial	
18	HK Land	Property	
19	Body Shop	Drapery,Strs	
20	Br Polythene	Industrial	
21	Inchcape	Business Serv	
22	Pittard Garnar	Shoes,Lth	
23	Kode	Electrical	
24	Cadbury-Schw	Foods	
25	Hadleigh Inds	Industrial	
26	Fired Earth Tiles	Drapery,Strs	
27	Matthews (B)	Foods	
28	Fullr Sm 'A'	Breweries	
29	Com Union	Insurance	
30	Jardine Math	Industrial	
31	Southend Prop	Property	
32	Bowmore Intl	Industrial	
33	Utd Nwspaprs	Newspapr,Pub	
34	Tunstall	Electrical	
35	Takare	Industrial	
36	Hanson	Industrial	
37	Hunterprint	Paper,Print	
38	Torex Hire	Building,Rds	
39	Sth Western	Electricity	
40	Argyll	Foods	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd.	Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

Four winners equally share the Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000. Mr G Power, Warwick; Mr R Wallwork, Upton By Chester; Mr I Hughes, Christchurch; Mr C Jacobs, Woolwich SE18.

Falls extended

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 4. Dealings end January 15. §Contango day January 18. Settlement day January 25. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
75	19	McCarthy & S	35½	...	0.5	6.1	...
433	181	Meyer Intl	286	...	16.5	7.7	20.4
14	4	Miklin Gp	4	...	...	...	...
171	52	Mowlem (J)	65	...	10.5	...	...
73	18	NSM	70	...	...	...	...
165	90	Newman Tnks	132	...	9.3	9.4	20.4
327	146	Persimmon	213	-4	8.6	5.4	17.5
36	19	Phoenix Timber	25	...	...	...	...
1625	1150	Pochins	1475	...	29.0	2.7	8.9
155	66	Prowting	81	...	3.4	5.5	...
23	3¼	Quiligotti	5½	...	...	...	...
669	383	RMC Gp	557	-6	20.0	4.8	20.7
137	67	Raine Ind	100	-3	6.0	7.8	17.2
96	23	Rasrus	34	...	...	...	...
595	300	Redland	422	-9	25.0	7.9	26.1
101	61	Roskel	74	...	4.3	7.7	9.9
248	152	Rugby Group	216	-3	6.4	4.0	16.3
48	25	Svrfid-Rwe	26	...	...	...	4.7
98	50	Sharpe & Fisher	73	...	4.0	7.3	...
126	70	Sheffield Insl	125	...	5.4	5.8	32.3
85	85	Sherill Hldgs	84	...	...	3.2	-
85	53	Shoreco	68	...	...	10.2	10.5
272	188	Smart (J)	225	...	8.5	5.0	10.2
15	6	Starmin	6½	...	0.3	6.2	7.8
161	51	Tarmac	106	+1	5.5	6.9	43.8
236	139	Tay Homes	165	...	5.8	4.7	9.1
143	34	Taylor Woodrw	66	...	9.5	...	9.3
688	398	Tilbury Dougls	465	-8	33.0	9.5	15.3
48	18	Torex Hire	22	+3	...	2.6	...
228	105	Travis Perkins	179	-2	8.0	6.0	25.3
58	20	Try Group	33	...	6.0	...	4.1
34	21	Tudor	28	...	...	...	...
106	45	Vibroplant	63	-3	3.6	7.6	11.6
55	12	Ward Hldgs	20	...	0.5	...	...
43	23	Waterhouse	30	...	...	...	...
407	265	Watts Blake	375	...	9.3	3.3	19.5
19	9	Wescol	12	...	...	...	...
120	45	Westbury	91	+1	...	7.1	...
15	5	West Scaffold	5	...	...	...	...
22	2	Wiggins	5	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	379	-10	8.7	3.1	19.4
221	90	Wilson (C)	166	-3	3.9	3.2	26.3
180	65	Wimpey G	109	...	...	6.4	41.9
81	26	YRM	31	...	4.0	17.2	3.6

BUSINESS SERVICES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
533	343	ADT	475	...	...	...	-
249	193	Adam & Harvey	198	...	11.0	7.4	3.1
127	53	Air London	67	...	...	7.0	8.3
63	34	Africort Lakes	37	...	2.0	7.2	7.4
152	81	Auto Sec	126	-1	4.9	5.2	10.2
108	80	BET Ord	99	-2	...	8.8	14.5
100	41	BNB Res	55	...	4.9	11.9	6.5
283	208	BPP	280	+2	6.9	3.3	15.8
283	178	Barbour Index	283	+8	7.2	3.4	20.8
30½	13	Boustead	17	...	0.7	5.5	34.8
192	111	Brit Data Mgt	188	...	...	3.8	15.7
14	9	Broadcastle	12	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	58	...	4.0	...	18.5
142	72	CRT Gp	102	...	2.4	3.1	11.7
434	282	Capita Group	432	...	5.4	1.7	24.8
36	19	Caster Plc	34½	+½	0.5	1.9	13.0
270	25½	Chiltern Capital	48	...	...	...	...
39	22	Christie	26	...	...	...	...
245	180	Chubb Sec	241	+1	...	1.5	26.6
43	18	Comaca	28	...	...	...	...
31	5½	Corp Services	9	-1	...	...	...
123	48	Dan	52	...	3.3	8.5	5.9
216	145	Davis Service	212	...	7.9	5.0	16.1
115	85	EW Facts	85	...	...	6.8	6.3
57	8	Gardiner	14½	-1	1.3	12.0	4.5
48	21	Gardner (DC)	33	...	...	...	...
239	163	Hays	230	+1	4.6	2.7	22.6
251	167½	Hogg Robinson	211	-2	6.3	4.0	15.8
143½	43	Holmes Protectn	65	...	...	...	...
147	98	Hutch Whamp	134	+6	...	...	14.4
£101	6837½	ISS B DKr	9650	-87½	...	1.1	13.6
576	375	Inchcape	563	+5	12.6	3.0	23.9
695	561	Johnson Clean	694	...	25.7	4.9	14.4
18½	2½	Lep	4	+½	...	...	...
210	168	Mitie Gp	185	+4	2.7	2.0	15.1
992	682	Manpower	926	...	...	...	...
44	32½	Michael Page	41	...	1.8	5.9	11.4
225	88	Penna	222	+2	...	1.2	56.2
5½	4	Prime People	4½	...	...	...	...
398	68	Proudfoot Alex	91	...	19.5	28.6	1.9
453	355	RCO	397	+7	12.6	4.2	13.9
183	117	REA	117	...	4.0	4.6	...
81	48	Reed Executive	67	+1	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Sec	141	+1	...	4.3	14.2
13	4	Rentaminster	4	...	...	...	...
234	134	Rentokil	212	+1	1.6	1.1	31.1
240	180	Rolfe & Nolan	240	...	6.2	3.4	16.1
354	234	Salvesen (C)	350	-1	7.0	2.7	19.4
43	25	Scott Pickford	29	...	...	3.7	8.0
190	48	Securiguard	188	...	8.5	6.0	10.2
12	1½	Select Appt	5	...	...	...	...
720	555	Serco Gp	720	+2	11.9	2.2	23.1
283	132	Sherwd Cmpt	252	...	...	3.2	6.8
157	92½	Sketchley	120	-7	3.0	3.3	14.6
360	229	Warner Howrd	349	...	5.9	2.3	19.7
81	41½	Welpac	45	...	0.6	1.8	...
15½	7½	Wills Gp	15½	...	0.1	0.8	20.2

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
333	190	Jones Stroud	333	+3	8.0	3.2	16.3
21	8	Kembrey	8	...	0.3	6.3	3.1
319	37	Kewill Sys	55	...	...	...	2.8
121	92	Kode	121	+4	...	4.4	16.0
21	8	Laser-Scan	21	+1	...	...	...
131	49½	LBMS	129	...	...	...	...
315	259	Lec Refrig	297	...	14.5	7.5	19.6
178	125	Life Sciences	175	+1	3.3	2.6	19.4
232	130	Logica	178	...	3.6	2.7	25.6
59	45	LPA Inds	46	...	...	10.2	12.1
353	371	Macro 4	353	+3	...	3.1	20.7
565	305	Memtec-Sw	564	-1	...	2.1	19.4
311	150	Microfilm Rep	208	...	4.3	2.8	19.9
2793	1493	Micro Focus	2200	...	...	...	30.1
214	130	Microgen	211	...	7.0	4.4	16.8
35	13	Microvitec	24½	...	...	...	...
385	201	Misys	365	-10	6.1	2.2	20.5
121	40	Mitel	120	-1	...	...	...
123	78	MoIT Compu	121	...	...	3.9	15.4
92	26	Molynx	26	...	4.0	20.5	2.5
373	204	MTL Instr	204	...	...	2.2	12.7
146	82	Muirhead Elect	143	...	3.0	2.8	17.4
130	71	Murray Enter	130	+5	1.8	2.0	-
5687½	3962½	NYNEX	5425	-62½	...	...	...
153	115	Neoptronics	153	+5	2.5	2.2	20.7
63	32	Newmark (L)	45	...	...	...	...
77	33	Norbain	71	...	...	1.9	14.7
50	20	Northumber	34	-1	0.5	2.8	...
17½	10½	Oceonics	12	...	...	...	7.8
254	165	Oxford Inst	199	...	4.3	2.9	13.3
127	46	P-E Intern'l	49	...	6.2	...	...
68	16	P & P	31	-1	4.3	...	11.1
66	42	Peek	60½	...	3.4	7.5	17.9
190	85	Pegasus	115	...	...	8.1	-
9200	7000	Philips Fn 4%	9000	...	...	6.4	...
1187½	625	-do- Lmp nV	737½	+12½	...	...	...
415	310	Pifco	415	+10	7.2	2.5	35.4
375	290	-do- 'A' Voting	375	+10	7.2	2.8	32.0
91	48	Plasmec	85	...	...	3.9	10.9
104	63	Pressac	93	-2	2.4	3.4	13.5
220	65	Psion	126	+3	...	2.0	...
7	2	Ptarmigan	7	...	...	...	...
182	128	Racal Elect	169	-2	1.8	1.2	30.0
46	26	Radamec	46	...	0.5	1.4	27.0
58	35	Radius	44	...	...	8.2	32.7
118	69	Real Time	90	+1	...	4.4	8.2
28	10	Riva	21	...	...	...	...
515	328	Sage Gp	508	-5	9.0	2.4	16.1
61	44	Scantronic	61	+2	2.9	6.5	19.3
139	92	Scholes Grp	139	+3	5.0	4.8	27.3
340	179	Sema Gp	316	-6	2.6	1.1	27.2
50	29	Soundtracks	38	...	...	7.7	10.3
1981½	1275	TDK	1812½	+12½	...	1.4	20.5
8	3	TDS Circuits	5½	...	...	...	...
96	30	Telemetrix	98	+½	0.6	0.8	33.5
888	633	THORN EMI	840	-11	30.1	4.8	21.6
110	88	Thorpe FW	109	...	2.5	3.1	11.0
78	33	Total Systems	75	...	2.2	4.0	13.4
390	190	Tunstall	390	+5	6.0	2.1	-
236	123	Unitech	175	-3	5.8	4.5	22.2
24½	9	Verity	11	...	...	...	...
27	13	Vistec	25	...	...	1.6	21.3
434	285	Vodafone	408	-9	...	1.9	20.0
430	260	Volex	430	...	17.0	5.3	21.1
17	10	Western Selectn	16	-1	...	...	...
287	153	Wholesale Ftgs	235	-1	11.7	6.6	20.1

ELECTRICITY

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
444	273	East Midlands	429	-1	17.7	5.4	8.1
433	266	Eastern Elec	428	-1	16.7	5.3	10.5
263	143	Hydro-Elect	244	-1	10.1	4.4	11.0
465	288	London Elec	436	-1	16.8	5.1	8.4
513	324	Manweb	493	+4	18.2	4.9	7.1
482	287	Midlands Elec	476	+1	17.2	4.9	9.9
490	295	Northern Elec	483	+3	18.5	5.2	7.1
491	298	Norweb	477	+4	17.7	5.0	8.9
247	142	Scottish Power	231	-2	10.1	4.5	11.1
474	297	Seeboard	464	-1	17.2	5.0	8.4
539	313	Sth Wales	522	+12	19.4	5.0	8.3
474	293	Sth Western	460	+3	17.4	5.1	8.2
449	270	Southern Elec	446	+2	16.6	5.0	8.8
511	331	Yorkshire Elec	492	+2	17.7	4.8	9.1
290½	188	National Powr	281	+2	9.1	4.4	9.2
295	196	PowerGen	280½	+1½	9.2	4.5	8.6

FINANCE, LAND

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
58	28	Aitken Hume	57	...	0.5	...	36.4
65	37½	BWD	64	...	...	6.3	8.9
124	23	Baltic Plc	32	...	4.3	...	2.8
453	299	Caledonia	443	-6	14.4	4.3	17.0
1950	1050	Cantelia	1100	...	27.0	3.3	9.2
290	203	Candover	251	...	9.5	5.0	20.7
91	48	Flextech	75	-10	...	...	7.4
156	103	Goves	155	...	...	8.9	4.5
135	97	Ivory Sime	130	...	...	6.4	13.8
6½	3½	LIT	4	...	...	...	...
165	7½	Lightship	12	...	...	...	0.6
155	110	Lon Forfaitng	155	...	...	6.6	13.5
84	14	Manakin	69	...	...	...	...
7	1½	Nat Home Loan	3½	...	...	...	...
41	24	Newmarket	41	...	...	...	...
260	179	Rathbone Brs	259	...	...	2.6	18.3
19	9½	Rutland Tst	17	-2	0.8	6.3	9.7
330	120	S & U	324	-3	...	3.4	11.6
45	21	Silvermines	28	...	...	10.3	...
52	34	Singer & Fried	51	...	2.5	6.5	11.2
863	575	Sothebys	825	...	...	4.6	...
93	73	SJP Capital	85	-1	3.0	4.7	15.4

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
399	245½	Abbey Natl	363	+3	10.5	3.9	12.5
191	154	Allied Irish	185	-3	...	6.5	10.5
197½	106	Aus New Z	131	-1	...	6.9	...
3108½	1906½	Bankamerica	2906	-75	...	...	...
200	141	Bk of Ireland	191	-2	...	...	28.4
345	330	Bk Leumi UK	325	...	16.0	7.5	...
130	97	Bank Scotland	117	-1	4.3	5.0	18.4
410	274	Barclays	372	+5	21.1	7.6	...
6	1½	Benchmark	2	...	...	...	...
201	28	Brown Shipley	41	...	...	...	...
21	10	Carlisle	17	...	...	...	...
425	295	Cater Allen	419	-3	26.0	8.3	...
95	61	Cattles	86	-3	3.8	5.9	12.6
1950	912½	Chase Manh	1912½	+12½	...	...	...
1475	537½	Citicorp	1381½	+37½	...	...	...
278	205	Close Bros	276	...	9.5	4.6	12.5
£104	7700	Commerzbk	9662½	+6½	...	3.8	...
£281	£214	Deutsche Bk	£252½	-225	...	2.5	...
84	13	First Nat Fin	52	-2	...	...	...
1104	493	Fuji Bank ¥	933	...	...	0.5	-
380	230	Gerrard Nat	369	-5	21.0	7.6	...
570	236	HSBC	523	+4	...	3.8	21.5
577	313	HSBC HK	506	+7½	...	3.9	20.7
292	202	Hambros	250	+1	13.8	7.4	11.1
353	308	Joseph (L)	353	...	15.8	6.0	...
180	54	King Shaxson	108	-1	5.0	6.2	...
330	212	Kleinwort Ben	318	+4	16.0	6.7	27.8
549	346	Lloyds	506	-12	16.7	4.4	17.2
64	40	Lon Scot Bk	63½	...	2.7	5.8	14.1
351	258	Nat Aust Bk	322	-5	...	6.3	-
425	251	Nat West	405	-4	17.5	5.8	56.0
700	418	Provident	670	-6	25.0	4.9	15.5
42	25	Rea Bros	42	+1	0.5	1.6	...
216	137	Ryl Bk Scot	211	+1	8.8	5.6	...
1433	1043	Schroders	1430	...	18.0	1.7	16.6
606	364	Stand Chart	586	+5	20.0	4.6	15.1
161½	115	TSB	149	-2½	6.4	5.7	...
200	38	Union Disc	85	-4	13.5	...	...
605	403	Warburg SG	539	+9	18.0	4.5	16.0
201	137	-do- 6% 'A'	187	+½	...	4.3	...
5100	3067½	Wells Fargo	5000	+12½	...	2.1	...
183	99	Westpac	135	-2	...	6.0	-
253	188	Wintrust	190	...	9.3	6.5	7.3

BREWERIES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
713	526	Allied-Lyons	618	...	20.0	4.3	14.3
656	472	Bass	592	-8	19.9	4.3	12.9
205	146	Boddington	197	-5	6.8	4.5	12.5
400	243	Bulmer (HP)	377	-3	9.0	3.2	17.4
137	111	Burtonwd Brw	135	...	4.4	4.4	9.6

SHOES, LEATHER

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	9	Automagic	12	...	...	...	...
99	42	Headlam	95	+2	2.4	3.4	37.6
428	265	Lambert	380	+2	12.5	4.4	9.9
111	63	Pittard Garnar	84	+2	1.5	2.4	11.1
41	15	Strong & Fisher	24	-1	1.0	5.6	6.7
193	88	Stylo	113	...	2.5	2.9	...

TOBACCOS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1010	608	BAT	987	-1	33.6	4.8	25.5
669	480	Rothmans 'B'	617	-3	10.2	2.2	14.1

WATER

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
502	308½	Anglian Water	479	...	19.3	5.4	8.7
591	338	Northumbrian	582	-2	20.5	4.7	6.0
513	323	North West	475	-1	19.6	5.5	8.3
470	298	Severn Trent	455	-½	19.3	5.7	6.6
485	301	Sthrn Water	466	...	19.5	5.6	8.2
1300	870	Sth Staffs	1225	-5	40.2	4.4	7.9
524	306	South West	488	...	21.7	5.9	7.4
518	324	Thames Water	490	-3	19.3	5.2	9.3
546	337	Welsh Water	524	-1	21.4	5.4	6.6
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Court of Appeal — Law Report January 13 1993 — Court of Appeal

Car hire agreements not champertous

Sanders v Templer
Giles v Thompson
Devlin v Baslington

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Steyn

[Judgment January 11]

Car hirers were not "trafficking in litigation" where they agreed with potential plaintiffs, whose cars were damaged in motor accidents and under repair, to supply them with free replacement vehicles provided the plaintiffs cooperated with the hirers in prosecuting claims against the defendants and paid them the hiring charges from the damages they received. Such agreements were not champertous and contrary to public policy.

The Court of Appeal so stated when (i) allowing an appeal by Matthew Sanders from Judge Hugh Jones, at Cardiff County Court, who had dismissed his application to strike out the defence of champerty raised by Marion Templer to the plaintiff's claim for recovery of car hiring charges following a road traffic accident in which his car was damaged; (ii) dismissing an appeal by Vanessa Thompson from Judge Nicholl, at Coventry County Court, who had rejected her defence of champerty to Christine Giles' claim, *inter alia*, for car hire charges following an accident in which her vehicle was damaged; (iii) granting Roy Baslington leave to appeal out of time and dismissing his appeal from Judge Hardy, at Manchester County Court, who had rejected his defence of champerty to Janice Devlin's claim, *inter alia*, for car rental pending repairs to her vehicle after an accident.

Mr Giles Wingate-Saul, QC and Mr Stephen Stewart for Mr Sanders; Mr Vernon Pugh, QC and Mr Christopher Moger, QC, for Mr Templer; Mr Edwin Glasgow, QC, Mr C. Cory-Wright and Mr Christian Du Cann for Mr Thompson; Miss Hilary Heilbron, QC and Mr Michael Swainston for Mrs Giles; Mr Simon Goldblatt, QC and Mr Stuart Catchpole for Mr Baslington; Mr C. G. G. Platts for Mr Devlin.

LORD JUSTICE STEYN said that the car hire firms targeted cases where the plaintiff was very likely to succeed in establishing the defendant's liability and was in no way contributorily negligent and where the defendant was insured. In such cases the car hirers offered free car hire to the plaintiff while his car was being repaired.

The hirers sought to recover the hire charges, not from the plaintiff, but in an action in the plaintiff's name against the defendant. The plaintiff was afforded free legal assistance at the expense of the hirers for the recovery of damages for any personal injury, which went to a plaintiff, and of the car rental, which he had to pay over to the hirers.

The potential plaintiff was referred by the hirers to a solicitor nominated by them, and he was obliged to cooperate in the prosecution of the action which was financed by the hirers but conducted by solicitors and counsel in the usual way.

In the actions under appeal, the insurance companies, through the nominal defendants, denied recoverability of the car hire on the grounds that (i) the agreements between hirers and plaintiffs were champertous and that fact afforded a defence to the claim for recovery of hire charges; and (ii) the plaintiffs were not entitled to recover hire charges since they had in fact suffered no loss.

On the first issue, the head of public policy which rendered champertous agreements illegal rested on the perceived need to protect the integrity of public justice.

In modern idiom: maintenance was the support of litigation by a stranger without just cause; champerty was an aggravated form of maintenance, its distinguishing feature being the support of litigation by a stranger in return for a share of the proceeds.

His Lordship traced the history of both maintenance and champerty, referring to their abolition as offences and torts by the Criminal Law Act 1967, and to the proposals in 1989 published by the Government in its White Paper, *Legal Services: A Framework for the Future* (Cm 740), relating to contingency fee agreements which led to the enactment of section 58 of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990.

That section evidenced a proposed modification in relation to an important species of champerty and represented at least a concession to the view that the abuses associated with it were not the inevitable result of all variants of contingency fee agreements. There was no more cogent evidence of a change of public policy than the expression of the will of Parliament.

The cases were harmonious on one point: that the purpose of that head of public policy was to protect the integrity of public civil justice. The doctrine of champerty evolved to protect from injustice not the maintained party but the other party who would usually be the defendant.

The head of public policy condemning champerty had only done so in the context of civil litigation.

The doctrine was further limited in applying only to English litigation. That illustrated that one was not dealing with an overriding public policy, but that it was designed to protect the integrity of the English judicial system.

Similarly, contingency fee agreements, perhaps the most important species of champerty, were still unlawful, yet an English solicitor might share a contingency fee earned in foreign litigation.

Whether or not the present agreements were legal did not depend exclusively on a crystallised and fixed rule of law. The correct approach was to ask whether they tended to corrupt public justice.

The hirers had argued that they had a genuine commercial interest in the agreements which, even if champertous, would have rendered them legal as a valid justification or excuse. That interest was in recovering in the actions the car hire for the replacement cars they had provided.

The difficulty was that the interest always arose from the very agreement which was alleged to be champertous and established precedent was clear that an interest in order to qualify as a justification had to arise independently of the alleged champertous agreement. That particular way of answering the allegation would be rejected.

The real issue was whether the agreements fell foul of the general principle rendering champertous agreements unlawful. The element of support by a stranger to the litigation was present, but in the classic champerty case the champertor by agreement shared in the proceeds of litigation.

Here the position was different. The hirers provided replacement cars and in return received the sum recovered in respect of the hire. They did not receive money which in any real sense was due to the plaintiffs and so did not share in the "spoils" of litigation.

Nor did the agreements pose any special risk of tending to corrupt public justice by suborning witnesses or by the dishonest inflation of claims. It was essential to the hirers' schemes that they selected only cases which they considered would succeed. The schemes did not create an incentive to corrupt public justice.

Moreoever, it was clear that in all cases where quantum was in issue the car hire agreements had to be produced on discovery. Rental could therefore be critically examined.

Also, between the hirers and the plaintiffs were interposed, when the litigation in the present cases began, independent solicitors and counsel who were bound to act in accordance with their codes of professional conduct. Subject to their duties to the court, they had to act in the interests of the plaintiffs.

Cumulatively, those factors tended to show that the agreements did not have the tendency to corrupt public justice.

English law recognised individual liberty as an important value. In our European democracy it was the first imperative of enlightened government that individual liberty ought not to be constrained unless there were clear, present and compelling grounds for doing so in the interests of the collective welfare.

If the court were to strike down the agreements it would interfere with the liberty of action of individual and potential users of the car hire schemes. A ruling that the agreements were contrary to public policy might deprive thousands of people with meritorious claims from effective access to civil justice and from hiring replacement cars when they reasonably needed to do so. The relevant head of public policy did not compel that result and the agreements were legal.

His Lordship considered the second question: whether, if the agreements were champertous, that fact afforded a defence.

He concluded that the plaintiffs had not assigned their claims to the hirers, that they had valid causes of action to recover, *inter alia*, the loss incurred in hiring replacement cars, that the actions were validly constituted and that the agreements did not constitute a necessary element in their cause of action. Accordingly, in his judgment, the defence of champerty would fail.

Turning to the third question: whether the plaintiffs suffered recoverable loss, his Lordship said that a plaintiff had to show a reasonable need for a replacement car in order to recover special damage.

In the present cases, that burden was relatively easily discharged. His Lordship rejected the insurance companies' argument that the plaintiffs had suffered no loss by virtue of their acceptance of free replacement cars.

If the plaintiffs recovered damages for hire charges, it would be on the basis that the charges were reasonably incurred and reasonable in amount.

That the plaintiffs would have to pay that part of their damages to the hirers ought not to make a difference: see *Donnelly v Joyce* ([1974] QB 454) and *McAll v Brooks* ([1984] RTR 99). The hirers would be compensated in circumstances where the charges were reasonable. If it were otherwise the insurers would enjoy a windfall.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson delivered judgments concurring in the result.

Solicitors: Dolmans, Cardiff; Hugh James, Jones & Jenkins, Cardiff; Edward Lewis & Co; Abson Hall, Manchester; Edward Lewis & Co; Eden & Co, Manchester.

Evidence required before making drugs orders

Regina v Rose

Before Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Leonard and Mr Justice Alliott

[Judgment December 22]

When a judge was assessing the value of proceeds of drug trafficking for the purpose of making a confiscation order, before making any of the assumptions referred to in section 2(3) of the Drug Trafficking Offences Act 1986 there had to be *prima facie* evidence which entitled him to make the assumption: see *R v Dickens* ([1990] 2 QB 102, 107).

Accordingly it was wrong and potentially misleading to say that, before a judge could make such an assumption he "must have had some reason to suspect that the defendant had benefited from drug trafficking", as was stated in *R v Redbourne* (*The Times*, June 26, 1992; [1992] 1 WLR 1182) the use of the word "suspect" should be avoided.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when allowing the appeal of James Edward Rose against the sentence imposed on January 15, 1990 by Judge Wading in Chelmsford Crown Court, following the appellant's plea of guilty to conspiring fraudulently to evade a prohibition on the importation of a controlled drug (cannabis resin).

The sentence of 12 years imprisonment was reduced to ten years. A confiscation order of £2,304,679.51 was reduced to £1,417,518.27.

Mr John Mathew, QC and Miss Clare Montgomery, neither of whom appeared below, for the appellant; Mr Richard Sutton and Miss Linda Dobbs for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE ALLIOTT, giving the judgment of the court, said that the confiscation order was made when the 1986 Act was in its comparative infancy and before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, gave general guidance in *Dickens*.

Whenever the procedure under section 2(2) on making assumptions was invoked, the guidance in *Dickens* had to be strictly observed, especially bearing in mind that it was held there that (a) "appearing to the court" meant that there had to be *prima facie* evidence which entitled the judge (b) to make the assumption which (c) could be rebutted by evidence called on behalf of the defendant, on the balance of probabilities.

Having regard to that definition of "appearing to the court" the use of the word "suspect" in *Redbourne* was wrong and potentially misleading.

In respect of a number of specific items affecting the amount of the confiscation order in the present case, their Lordships differed from the trial judge and found that the assumptions that they were the appellant's benefits from drug trafficking were not warranted.

Solicitors: Henry Milner & Co; Solicitor, Customs & Excise.

Supply not necessary in plot

Regina v Gill

Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Schiemann and Mr Justice Curtis

[Judgment December 22]

To found a conviction of the offence of conspiracy to offer to supply a controlled drug it was not necessary for the prosecution to prove that the conspirators intended that the controlled drug should, pursuant to their offer, be supplied.

The offence of offering to supply a controlled drug was complete when the offer was made, regardless of whether the offerer intended to carry the offer into effect by actually supplying that drug.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing the appeal of Simon Gill against his conviction on October 17, 1991 at Croydon Crown Court (Judge Van der Werff and a jury) of conspiracy to offer to supply a controlled class A drug (ecstasy).

Mr Nigel Hamilton, who did not appear below and Mr Dominic Webber, both assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr R. Alun Jones, QC, who did not appear below, and Miss Rachel Bright for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant had been seen to take £20 for a bag containing pills. When searched nothing was found on him, but a bag of vitamin C tablets was found on his co-defendant.

At trial it was submitted unsuccessfully that the offence was not made out because the appellant had not in fact been conspiring to offer to supply a controlled drug but rather had been cheating his customers by offering to supply ecstasy and actually supplying vitamin C tablets.

In *R v Goodard* (unreported, CA No 91/1930/X4, February 25, 1992) the appellant was convicted of offering to supply a controlled class B drug, contrary to section 4(1)(*b*) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas, giving the judgment of the court, said that there was nothing in the section which provided that the person who made the offer had to intend to supply the controlled drug; it was plain that the offence was complete when the offer was made.

Goodard was directly against the appellant's argument and was binding on their Lordships. The fact that what was charged against the appellant was a conspiracy rather than the substantive offence could not make any difference.

Solicitors: CPS, London South, Surrey.

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COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	99.23	106.10	-1.03	0.27
European Gth	80.44	85.57	-0.47	1.82
Far East Gth	82.20	87.45	-0.60	0.22
Japan Gth Acc	30.32	32.25	-0.19	...
Managed	56.98	60.62	-0.09	3.30
-do- Acc	68.81	73.20	-0.12	3.30
Mthly Inc Plus	45.00	47.87	-0.03	8.89
Smaller Cos	29.90	31.81	-0.05	2.60
-do- Acc	32.91	35.01	-0.05	2.60
UK General	65.19	69.34†	...	3.14
-do- Acc	78.17	83.16	...	3.14
Wwide Bd	58.80	62.62	-0.30	6.26
-do- Acc	73.76	78.47	-0.37	6.26
Wwide Sp Sits	47.41	50.71†	-0.25	0.34
-do- Acc	49.29	52.72	-0.26	0.34
Quilter General	115.91	123.31	+0.14	2.57
-do- Acc	127.58	135.72	+0.16	2.57
Quilter Income	84.75	90.16†	-0.35	4.40
-do- Acc	104.44	111.11	-0.44	4.40
Quilter Intl	111.05	118.14	-0.89	0.39
-do- Acc	112.58	119.77	-0.91	0.39
Quilter UK Spec	65.12	69.28	+0.18	3.25
-do- Acc	86.15	91.65	+0.23	3.25
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	90.04	95.79	-0.49	2.33
Fixed Conv	39.09	41.58	-0.06	7.82
-do- Acc	100.23	106.63	-0.17	7.82
Equity Inc	134.33	142.91	-1.69	4.47
-do- Acc	424.05	451.12	-5.36	4.47
High Yield	108.22	115.13†	-0.14	5.53
-do- Acc	405.31	431.18	-0.51	5.53
Preference	43.73	46.52†	-0.87	8.65
-do- Acc	221.18	235.30	-4.42	8.65
PPT Europe	128.66	137.95	-0.75	0.97
PPT Global Bnd	75.73	80.57	-0.43	4.53
PPT Gold Com	41.86	44.54	-0.67	...
PPT Thai	52.81	56.18	+0.76	...
PPT Hong Kong	83.07	88.38	-0.88	...
PPT Japan	82.67	87.95	-0.41	...
PPT N Amer	136.09	144.78	-1.25	...
PPT S'pore Mly	88.11	93.73	-1.45	...
PPT UK	110.20	117.23	-0.02	1.68
PPT Cash	90.57	90.57	+0.01	5.77
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	64.55	68.67	-0.38	1.15
Japanese Acc	43.11	45.86	-0.17	...
UK Balncd Inc	117.80	125.30†	-0.90	2.55
-do- Acc	132.40	140.20†	-1.10	2.55
UK Growth Acc	196.20	208.70	-1.20	2.31
UK High Inc	123.80	131.90	-1.40	7.21
-do- Acc	146.20	155.50	-1.60	7.21
N America Acc	104.80	111.50	-0.40	0.35
European Acc	132.30	140.70	-0.40	0.50
UK Pref F/I Inc	59.11	62.74†	-0.08	9.79
-do- Acc	94.13	99.90†	-0.10	9.79
Intl Sp Sits Acc	40.91	43.52	-0.17	0.36
Environmntl Opp	68.58	72.96	-0.35	1.52
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	99.40	105.60	+0.60	...
UK Smlr Cos	163.00	173.20	-1.60	1.44
Eurolund	33.84	35.76†	+0.27	1.12
Mngd Exempt	156.80	163.40	-2.40	3.21
Growth Inc	205.00	217.80	-0.10	4.13
High Dist	128.60	136.60	-0.40	6.33
International	294.80	313.20	+0.90	1.04
Intl Income	73.04	77.97†	+0.60	3.33
Pacific	49.25	52.43	+0.12	0.57
Smllr Jap Cos	49.90	53.02†	-0.06	...
Japan Exempt	83.72	86.02	-6.42	0.58
Sm Jap Exempt	416.10	427.50	-11.80	0.12
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	154.60	164.40	...	1.27
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	100.80	105.26	-0.26	3.89
High Income	111.64	117.52	-0.47	5.87
Tst of Inv Tsts	127.26	133.96	-0.14	2.86
Special Sits	77.33	81.40	-0.14	3.61
North American	100.11	105.38	+0.02	1.12
Far Eastern	189.69	196.52	+1.25	1.62
Intl Growth	82.16	86.48	+0.48	1.62
European	56.52	59.49	+0.17	2.30
Smaller Cos	62.73	66.03†	+0.06	2.68
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	201.80	213.00	-0.30	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00†	...	6.50
European Tst	95.99	101.70	+0.10	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	81.45	86.20	+0.14	0.75
Far Eastern	103.23	111.03	-0.60	...
Oseas Income	78.36	83.67†	-0.23	2.99
UK Growth	87.14	93.20†	-0.22	1.43
UK Income	94.81	101.40	-0.30	4.17
US Smaller Cos	202.80	216.90	-1.10	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Cos	401.90	429.70	...	...
-do- Acc	410.60	439.00	...	...
Capital	265.70	282.60	...	2.48
-do- Acc	366.70	390.00	...	2.48
Cond Smllr Cos	40.40	43.64	...	1.47
-do- Acc	41.80	45.16	...	1.47
Convertible	103.60	110.10†	...	6.71
-do- Acc	191.30	203.20†	...	6.71
European	85.89	91.87	...	1.07
-do- Acc	88.75	94.93	...	1.07
Extra Income	266.70	283.60	...	4.78
-do- Acc	367.50	390.90	...	4.78
Financial	91.08	96.88	...	0.89
-do- Acc	94.78	100.80	...	0.89
Health Fund Inc	125.30	133.80	...	...
-do- Acc	125.30	133.80	...	...
Income Tst	164.50	174.80†	...	4.38
-do- Acc	229.30	243.90†	...	4.38
Intl Growth	283.50	302.70	...	...
-do- Acc	314.80	336.10	...	...
Japan Gen	121.30	130.10	...	...
-do- Acc	122.50	131.40	...	...
Mngd P folio Inc	83.91	88.32	...	1.95
-do- Acc	86.65	91.20	...	1.95
Monthly Income	132.60	141.00†	...	4.95
Recovery	261.10	279.20	...	0.78
-do- Acc	304.60	325.70	...	0.78
Gilt Gth Tst	59.99	61.45	...	7.46
-do- Acc	74.81	77.14	...	7.46
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	331.94	353.15	-1.98	2.90
-do- Acc	670.23	713.01	-3.96	2.90
Euro Gth Dist	92.41	98.31	-0.50	1.17
-do- Acc	95.17	101.24	-0.52	1.17
Fixed Int Dist	130.58	138.12†	+4.27	6.95
-do- Acc	216.73	229.25†	+7.09	6.95
Intl Gth Dist	66.20	70.43†	-0.42	0.90
-do- Acc	68.48	72.85†	-0.44	0.90
Nth Amer Dist	154.78	164.27†	-0.93	0.72
-do- Acc	167.72	178.01†	-1.01	0.72
Far Basin Dist	191.06	203.26†	-1.17	0.42
-do- Acc	194.10	206.49†	-1.18	0.42
Stewardship Dist	276.34	293.98	-1.24	2.04
-do- Acc	326.94	347.81	-1.47	2.04
Swrd Inc Dist	56.71	60.33	+0.31	4.06
-do- Acc	69.16	73.57	+0.38	4.06
N Am Swrd Dist	87.26	92.83†	-0.55	0.04
-do- Acc	92.36	98.26†	-0.59	0.04
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 2575. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	130.80	139.90	-0.80	...
European	351.20	373.00	-2.00	1.03
Far East General	174.00	185.30†	-1.00	0.35
Germany	84.58	89.54	-0.62	0.45
Global Assets In	59.99	64.06	-0.11	2.34
Global Assets Ac	62.75	67.12	-0.12	2.31
Income	99.42	106.30	+0.30	7.44
International	220.00	235.30	-1.20	1.07
Intl Income	67.31	71.65†	-0.39	5.00
Japan General	272.90	288.50	-1.30	...
Smllr Cos Div	42.93	45.49†	+0.24	6.19
UK Capital Inc	142.80	152.80	-0.30	4.15
-do- Acc	242.10	259.00	-0.60	4.09
UK Spec Sits	63.18	67.58	+0.40	1.68
US General	99.85	106.30	-0.30	0.11
W'wide Spec Sits	102.80	110.00	-1.00	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	41.48	44.37	-0.15	1.22
Cash Trust	120.79	120.79	+0.01	6.19
Fmst Inv Inc	94.93	101.90	-0.23	4.34
-do- Acc	202.68	217.35	-0.50	4.34
UK Smaller Cos	90.85	97.41	-0.65	3.04
Income Funds				
Preference Share	23.77	25.42	+0.01	8.61
High Inc	28.73	30.73	-0.05	5.79
UK Equity Inc	119.74	128.06	-0.65	4.71
Intl Fxd Int	27.58	28.59†	-0.09	5.98
International Funds				
Gold Intl	55.91	59.96	-0.47	1.93
Frontier Markets	36.52	39.16	-0.31	0.38
Global Inc Gth	109.03	116.40	-0.57	3.05
UK Intl	100.33	107.30†	-0.34	1.32
Overseas Funds				
American	117.24	125.17	-0.58	0.60
European	72.04	76.41	-0.13	0.92
Euro Sel Opps	82.92	87.77	+0.01	1.36
American Emerg	64.94	71.79†	-1.10	...
Hong Kong	90.88	97.44	-0.08	2.90
Japan	146.58	156.04	-0.46	...
Pacific Growth	123.71	132.66	-0.69	0.67
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4, Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	106.70	114.11	-1.98	0.95
American Gth	109.88	117.52	-0.34	0.35
European Gth	59.66	63.79	-0.32	0.82
German Horizon	41.55	44.35	-0.11	0.02
Japan Gth	56.01	59.90	-0.28	...
Pacific Inc	108.74	116.30	+1.21	3.22
Pacific Strategy	88.24	94.37	-0.76	...
UK Prog Inc	67.45	72.14	-0.20	6.11
Gt British Cos	45.58	48.73	-0.51	2.00
UK Small Cos	39.67	42.42	-0.08	2.60
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668				
Cash	120.50	120.50	...	5.75
Gilt Fixed	116.10	123.10	-0.60	6.67
Growth Equity	274.80	293.50	-2.50	2.32
Income Trust	97.82	104.50†	-0.90	4.85
International	135.30	144.50	-0.70	0.16
Japan Trust	92.52	98.84	-0.31	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	231.50	247.30	-0.10	0.47
Pacific	294.30	314.40	-1.30	...
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	292.00	317.90†	-2.80	0.47
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	32.36	34.31	-0.30	1.81
-do- Acc	33.73	35.76	-0.30	1.81
Inc Adv Inc	27.43	29.08†	-0.30	4.53
-do- Acc	28.28	29.98	-0.30	4.53
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	59.13	63.34	+0.38	0.66
Equity Income	102.90	109.50	-0.80	4.05
European	122.30	129.30	-0.50	1.59
Intl Situation	65.07	69.22	-0.59	...
Japanese	100.50	107.00	-0.20	...
North American	93.72	99.44	-0.53	0.07
Scandinavian	94.04	99.49	-1.41	0.62
Smaller Cos	28.51	30.33	-0.17	2.64
HENDERSON PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	84.94	90.84	-0.25	...
Asian Enterprise	102.21	109.63†	-0.79	1.41
Australian	109.84	117.41	-0.70	1.37
European	314.30	333.11	-2.31	1.29
European Inc	61.15	64.73	-0.45	2.59
Euro Sml Co	104.88	112.03	-0.27	1.47
Euro Income	238.87	254.29†	-1.41	5.63
Family of Funds	62.62	66.84†	-0.60	2.02
Fixed Interest	53.66	57.38†	-0.09	9.59
Global Resour	70.11	75.26	+0.04	1.60
High Inc	257.44	275.19	-1.41	4.99
Income Gth	217.66	231.80†	-0.42	4.30
-do- Acc	547.34	583.33†	-1.07	4.30
International	201.50	214.56	-1.34	0.95
Japan Spc Sit	166.90	177.51	-0.51	...
Japan	142.33	151.29†	-0.55	...
N Amer	215.36	229.02	-0.01	0.15
Pacific Smllr Cos	137.96	147.82	-0.88	1.57
Pref Gilt	44.80	48.68	-0.03	9.69
Smaller Cos Div	146.01	159.14	+0.12	4.71
Special Sits	237.51	254.13	-0.54	1.20
-do- Acc	363.75	389.20	-0.84	1.70
Best of British	52.17	55.99	-0.24	2.51
Spirit of the East	46.39	49.59	-0.30	0.74
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	83.40	89.19	-0.06	2.74
Capital	143.00	152.90	-0.50	2.57
Dollar	278.10	297.40	-2.20	0.28
European	168.90	180.60	-1.70	0.84
Far East	193.30	206.50†	-0.70	0.89
Financial	580.30	620.60	-1.70	2.96
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.15	26.12	-0.09	8.88
High Yield	91.06	97.38†	-0.44	5.63
Income	123.30	131.80	-0.40	4.15
Intl	185.30	198.60	-1.80	0.54
Japan Tech	49.33	52.75†	-0.38	...
Nat Resources	47.88	51.20	-0.20	0.64
Security	277.20	297.00	-0.50	2.60
Smaller Cos	98.83	105.70	-0.30	2.02
Special Sits	123.00	131.50	-0.20	2.75
US Smaller Cos	66.67	71.30	-0.15	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS 36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673				
Brit O'seas	226.70	237.60	-0.20	1.51
Capital Gwth	98.37	104.60	-0.40	2.57
Inv Trusts	111.20	117.10	+0.80	0.82
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	20.40	21.80	-0.05	2.17
Special Features	25.13	26.70	+0.08	1.83
-do- Acc	29.47	31.31	+0.02	1.83
General Funds				
UK Growth	49.24	52.80	-0.14	2.75
Assets Earnings	67.35	71.55	...	2.18
do Acc	78.50	83.40	...	2.18
Managed Invest	74.29	79.41	-0.34	1.46
Export Children	72.09	76.95	-0.03	1.87
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	51.31	51.31	...	5.86
Extra Inc	73.11	78.90	-0.30	5.01
Gilt	26.22	28.13†	-0.08	7.40
Income Gth	35.78	38.28	-0.02	3.71
Midsmar	74.09	76.03	-0.15	8.67
Preference	17.05	18.11†	-0.01	7.42
UK Income	283.50	303.10	-0.80	3.80
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	47.57	50.54†	+0.04	2.04
Property Shares	50.50	53.46	-0.79	2.41
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	130.90	137.60	...	3.77
European Acc	97.48	103.20	-0.40	2.21
European Dist	92.79	98.31	-0.35	2.21
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	45.20	48.09	-0.30	1.06
European Perf	91.17	96.03	-0.32	1.44
-do- Acc	92.88	98.44	-0.32	1.44
Euro Small Cos	17.09	18.18	+0.04	1.08
French Growth	59.39	62.92	-0.44	0.84
-do- Acc	62.60	66.32	-0.47	0.84
Hong K/China	53.79	57.60†	-0.34	1.97
Intl Growth	43.99	46.73	-0.21	0.98
-do- Acc	43.99	46.73	-0.21	1.13
Japan Perf	23.32	24.77	-0.19	...
Accum Units	23.32	24.77	-0.19	...
Japan Smllr Cos	23.37	26.52	-0.02	...
Singapore Asean	60.11	65.20	-0.98	0.76
-do- Acc	60.48	65.60	-0.94	0.76
South East Asia	181.40	195.40	-2.10	1.08
US Smllr Cos	102.90	109.30	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	104.00	110.50	-0.10	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	72.56	77.33†	-0.40	3.07
Intl Bond	53.69	54.40	-0.23	6.82
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	68.35	68.69	+0.01	6.46
Extra Income	47.73	50.78†	+0.02	7.58
Gilt Yield	115.50	121.50†	...	8.37
Global Income	173.00	185.00†	+1.50	4.62
High Yield	119.80	127.50†	...	6.85
Smllr Cos Div	40.32	42.89	-0.03	6.44
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	83.42	88.74	+0.90	...
North American	70.47	74.97†	+0.74	0.25
European	114.90	122.20	+0.80	0.97
Euro Special	69.34	73.66	+0.16	1.13
General	256.00	272.30	-3.00	3.54
Japan	287.10	305.40	+0.50	...
Japanese Special	154.00	163.80	+1.50	...
Mismer Acc	196.50	209.00	+0.60	1.58
Pacific	210.90	223.90	+1.80	0.42
Smaller Cos	85.84	91.32†	-2.73	2.53
UK Equity Gth	31.81	33.84	...	2.93
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	64.46	68.57†	-0.13	0.98
Far East	20.60	21.91	-0.11	0.96
Income Gwth	68.62	73.00	-0.45	3.04
Intl Growth	44.91	47.78	-0.25	1.00
Japan	46.19	49.14	-0.19	...
Maximum Dist	100.90	102.90	...	8.33
N Amer Equity	36.88	39.02†	-0.21	0.45
UK Equity	81.51	86.71	-0.58	2.92
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	49.72	52.89†	-0.13	5.03
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690355				
Equity Dist	400.90	426.50	-0.50	3.09
Equity Acc	754.90	803.10	-1.00	3.09
Equity Income	83.90	89.26†	-0.24	4.88
European	83.30	88.62	-0.43	1.99
Far Eastern	139.00	147.90	-0.90	0.38
Fixed Interest	48.50	51.60†	-0.05	8.76
Gilt	87.89	93.20	-0.26	6.71
Global Growth	54.98	58.49†	-0.34	1.15
Intl Bond	52.25	55.59	-0.16	5.63
Japanese	49.07	52.20	-0.26	...
Overseas Equity	80.94	86.11	-0.34	0.89
Pacific Gth	67.76	72.09	-0.62	1.44
North American	126.90	135.00	-0.20	1.38
UK Recovery	69.71	74.16	-0.19	3.21
UK Smllr Cos	92.67	98.58†	-0.18	2.50
Worldwide	68.18	72.53	-0.16	3.03
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	296.20	315.20	-2.40	3.16
-do- Acc	641.20	682.20	-5.40	3.16
Contl Euro Gth	44.78	47.14	-0.24	1.63
-do- Acc	47.35	49.85	-0.26	1.63
Extra Inc	223.10	237.40	-2.10	4.33
-do- Acc	542.70	577.40	-5.00	4.33
German Gth	86.57	91.13	-0.39	0.31
-do- Acc	90.79	95.57	-0.40	0.31
Income	413.80	440.30	-10.50	4.11
-do- Acc	1049.0	1116.0	-26.00	4.11
Japan Growth	68.23	72.59	-0.73	0.01
-do- Acc	68.47	72.85	-0.73	0.01
Master Trust	48.20	51.28	-0.27	1.25
-do- Acc	52.43	55.78	-0.29	1.25
N American Gen	174.30	185.50	-1.50	0.01
-do- Acc	201.40	214.30	+1.80	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	128.80	137.10	+2.70	0.01
-do- Acc	131.50	139.90	+2.70	0.01
Pacific Basin	168.40	179.20	-1.20	0.61
-do- Acc	177.20	188.60	-1.10	0.61
Small Cos Rec	271.90	289.30	-1.00	2.60
-do- Acc	350.70	369.20	-1.40	2.60
UK Growth	73.61	78.31†	-0.48	2.43
-do- Acc	85.82	91.30	-0.58	2.43
Worldwide Gth	243.70	259.30	-0.50	0.41
-do- Acc	339.10	362.10	-0.70	0.41
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	73.38	78.73	-0.59	3.10
Income	54.71	58.70	-0.46	4.50
International	49.44	53.05	-0.20	0.90
American	55.67	59.73†	-0.19	0.40
Japan	36.10	38.73	-0.18	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	48.29	51.81	-0.17	2.20
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390590				
American Gen	358.40	378.80	-2.50	0.82
-do- Acc	441.30	466.40	-3.10	0.82
American Rec	351.30	371.50	...	0.77
-do- Acc	401.90	425.00	...	0.77
Am Sm Co Acc	110.30	116.60	-0.70	...
Australia Acc	115.40	122.10	-0.70	1.99
Capital	562.10	594.40	-2.90	3.59
-do- Acc	612.00	647.10	-3.30	3.59
Commodity Acc	329.40	348.40	-2.80	1.73
Compnd Gth	747.70	790.70	-5.50	3.57
Dividend	30.80	33.00	-0.20	5.05
-do- Acc	119.90	128.30	-1.00	5.05
Equity Inc	258.10	276.20	-0.70	6.25
European Div	50.70	54.20	-0.30	5.39
-do- Acc	56.70	60.60	-0.30	5.39
European Gen	330.10	351.60†	-1.80	1.83
-do- Acc	412.40	439.30	-2.30	1.83
Extra Yield	321.20	345.80	-3.00	5.38
-do- Acc	928.70	993.70	-8.60	5.38
Far Eastern	223.50	236.30	-2.80	1.54
-do- Acc	293.80	309.90	-3.50	1.54
Fund of Inv	434.90	459.90	-2.30	2.81
-do- Acc	784.70	829.80	-4.20	2.81
General	48.40	51.20†	-0.50	4.26
-do- Acc	127.40	134.80	-1.40	4.26
Gilt Fxd Int	60.20	60.30	-0.10	9.27
do Acc	146.50	146.60	-0.50	9.27
Gold	29.30	31.00†	-0.60	2.69
-do- Acc	34.20	36.20	-0.80	2.69
High Inc	21.40	22.60†	-0.40	5.70
-do- Acc	79.10	83.60	-1.30	5.70
Intl Growth	59.60	63.50	-0.50	1.19
-do- Acc	102.70	109.20	-0.80	1.19
Intl Inc	77.80	82.90	-0.60	5.59
Japan Gen Acc	36.40	38.40	-0.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	103.20	109.20	-0.60	0.10
Midland	45.00	47.60	-0.30	5.13
-do- Acc	142.30	150.50	-0.70	5.13
Recovery	31.30	33.50†	-0.30	3.79
-do- Acc	49.20	52.70	-0.50	3.79
Second Gen	53.00	56.00†	-0.60	4.37
-do- Acc	129.70	137.10	-1.30	4.37
Smaller Cos	52.00	55.00	-0.10	4.23
-do- Acc	96.00	102.50	-0.20	4.23
Trustee	34.20	36.20	-0.30	4.65
Charifund 3	$108.98	...	-0.40	9.89
Charifund 2	568.30	594.00	-5.10	5.62
Pension ex 1	791.60	811.40	-8.40	4.86
NAACIF Inc 3	144.00	...	...	8.28
-do- Acc 3	†1012.7	...	...	8.28
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 680066				
Inv Port Inc	123.00	131.60†	-0.23	2.80
-do- Acc	136.60	146.30†	-0.23	2.80
UK Income	101.70	108.80†	-0.27	3.40
-do- Acc	113.50	121.40†	-0.27	3.80
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	66.47	71.00	-0.56	0.71
Far East (Pacific)	104.90	111.30	-0.60	0.52
Income Growth	66.67	70.77	-0.67	3.91
European	58.04	61.61	-0.34	1.58
Nth American	52.05	55.25	+0.28	1.31
UK Growth	71.15	75.53	-0.49	1.63
Intl Growth	77.75	82.53	-0.64	0.66
Charities	101.40	107.60	-0.90	4.66
Intl Income	58.29	61.87†	-0.44	4.45
Japan	36.66	38.91	-0.26	0.15
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	178.00	187.30	-0.40	...
-do- Acc	188.10	200.10	-0.50	...
Cash	101.40	101.40	...	7.11
-do- Acc	127.30	127.30	+0.10	7.11
European Gth	170.00	180.00	-1.60	0.39
-do- Acc	182.00	192.70	-1.70	0.39
General	453.20	482.10	-3.90	2.77
-do- Acc	812.00	866.20	-7.60	2.77
Global Dist	125.40	131.70	-0.20	5.61
-do- Acc	137.50	144.40	-0.20	5.61
Income	128.40	137.20†	-1.20	5.31
-do- Acc	185.00	197.40†	-1.60	5.31
International	324.20	345.20†	-1.80	1.21
Japan	135.40	143.40†	-0.90	...
-do- Acc	139.00	147.20†	-0.90	...
New Europe	120.50	128.60	-0.60	1.56
-do- Acc	120.50	128.60	-0.60	1.56
Recovery	264.20	281.90	...	3.39
-do- Acc	330.10	352.20	...	3.39
European Inc	65.68	69.61†	-0.13	3.37
-do- Acc	83.32	88.31†	-0.16	3.37
Brit Blue Chip	67.87	72.31	-0.63	3.69
-do- Acc	79.47	84.62	-0.73	3.69
Portfolio	68.20	72.59	-0.57	3.32
-do- Acc	76.42	81.34	-0.64	3.32
Gold General	47.21	50.90	-0.24	4.77
-do- Acc	48.37	51.60	-0.24	4.77
Pacific	74.41	79.38	-0.54	0.72
-do- Acc	78.65	83.90	-0.58	0.72
UK Smaller Cos	45.60	48.65	-0.14	1.83
-do- Acc	50.70	54.09	-0.16	1.83
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 520 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	54.16	57.93	-0.05	3.66
-do- Acc	54.16	57.93	-0.05	3.66
British Dist	73.64	78.76	+0.03	2.74
-do- Acc	81.34	86.99	+0.04	2.74
European Gth	145.40	155.10†	-0.50	0.29
-do- Acc	182.50	194.70	-0.60	0.29
Extra High Inc	63.01	67.39†	-0.03	6.99
-do- Acc	109.90	117.50	-0.10	6.99
Gilt Fixed Int	54.69	57.00†	-0.05	7.33
-do- Acc	142.00	148.00	-0.10	7.33
High Yield	198.80	212.60	-0.30	5.52
-do- Acc	456.20	487.90	-0.60	5.52
Income	255.80	273.60	-0.90	4.45
-do- Acc	525.20	561.70	-1.80	4.45
Japan Gth	239.50	256.10	-1.80	...
-do- Acc	252.80	270.40	-1.80	...
Mandarin Acc	78.86	84.34	-0.79	1.45
North American	151.90	162.50†	-0.70	0.44
-do- Acc	191.00	204.30	-0.80	0.44
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	236.20	251.20†	-1.40	0.50
Cash Inc	100.05	100.05†	+0.01	5.86
Cash Acc	120.81	120.81†	+0.01	5.86
Euro Gth Acc	216.80	231.60†	+0.80	...
Europa	98.96	106.70	-0.20	...
Intl Gth	144.00	153.60	-0.90	...
Japan Tracker	52.65	55.78	-0.34	...
UK Equity Inc	132.30	142.50	-1.10	5.51
-do- Acc	159.30	171.60	-1.30	5.51
UK Ind Tracker	134.20	143.70	-1.10	3.68
US Eq Ind Trkr	176.30	188.40	-0.50	1.40
-do- Acc	185.50	198.20	-0.50	1.40
Asian Trader	119.00	129.20	-0.70	1.21
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	160.90	164.20	-0.70	3.03
European	53.15	54.53	-0.13	1.38
Olympiad	46.48	47.79	-0.46	0.82
Global Bond	45.35	45.81	-0.42	5.77
Smaller Cos	53.52	57.62	-0.19	2.03
Equity Income	86.09	88.55†	-0.95	5.18
UK Growth	78.73	81.14	-0.56	1.87
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	43.59	46.49	-0.19	0.77
Australian Acc	240.70	258.20	-3.90	...
Conscience	58.99	62.95†	-0.25	1.46
-do- Acc	63.30	67.55	-0.27	1.46
European	149.10	159.00	-2.10	1.36
-do- Acc	159.00	169.60	-2.30	1.36
Extra Income	68.22	72.80	-0.25	6.17
-do- Acc	102.10	108.90	-0.30	6.17
Far East Gth	124.90	133.50	+1.10	0.05
Gilt Fxd Inc	56.78	60.10	-0.05	7.67
Gold	24.42	26.25	-0.30	...
-do- Acc	26.29	28.26	-0.34	...
Income	47.92	51.11†	-0.01	5.58
-do- Acc	143.60	153.10	...	5.58
International	25.56	27.42	-0.15	0.98
-do- Acc	36.72	39.39	-0.22	0.98
Jap Sm Cos Acc	226.60	241.70	+1.90	...
S pore Mly Acc	130.00	139.40	+0.10	...
Smllr Cos Acc	21.86	23.50†	-0.49	2.01
Special Sits	29.68	31.91	-0.06	1.91
-do- Acc	33.87	36.41	-0.08	1.91
Tokyo	58.51	63.41	-0.27	...
-do- Acc	59.10	63.04	-0.28	...
US Smllr Co Acc	98.37	105.20	+0.40	...
UK Equity	149.80	159.70†	-0.10	3.14
-do- Acc	277.60	296.10	-0.30	3.14
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	63.49	67.55	+0.09	3.08
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	72.32	76.53	+0.02	7.12
N&P Higher Inc	164.20	174.30†	+0.10	5.60
N&P UK Income	91.49	97.86†	-0.34	4.42
N&P Intl	77.84	83.20	-0.40	2.40
N&P Smaller Cos	64.78	69.29	-2.22	1.99
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	145.15	154.42	-0.47	3.87
Global	230.67	245.40	-1.95	1.69
Income	180.26	191.77†	-0.18	4.98
Intl Bond	114.78	122.11	-0.50	7.17
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 500, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577.				
Growth	129.40	138.20	-0.90	3.01
-do- Acc	224.00	239.80	-1.70	3.01
Income	199.40	212.10	-1.90	4.11
Intl Equity	186.90	198.80	-1.20	1.29
-do- Acc	204.60	217.70	-1.30	1.29
Equity	202.90	215.80†	-1.50	2.80
-do- Acc	411.40	437.60	-3.10	2.80
UK Ind 25 Acc	62.82	66.82	-0.45	2.25
UK Income	54.75	58.32†	-0.51	3.57
UK Smllr Co Acc	61.88	65.83	-0.31	2.13
New Europe Acc	54.43	57.90	-0.33	1.75
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	72.45	77.49	+0.57	0.39
PEP Gth Inc	86.01	91.99	+0.41	1.64
Intl Gth	405.00	433.16	+2.70	0.99
Income	256.73	274.58	-0.88	4.58
W wide Recov	248.04	265.29	+1.06	1.23
American Gth	182.82	195.53	+1.92	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	147.25	157.49	-1.93	0.60
Far East Gth	153.27	163.93	+0.60	0.37
European Gth	94.60	103.22	+0.16	1.27
UK Growth	68.43	73.12	-0.26	3.58
High Income	70.18	75.06†	-0.15	5.32
Japanese Gth	145.79	155.46	-0.72	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	150.10	159.60	-0.20	1.08
High Income	98.09	104.40	-0.40	4.15
Conv Gilt	103.30	109.90	-0.20	6.80
Far East	249.20	265.10	-0.20	0.14
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XL. 0622 674751				
American	45.47	48.37	-0.32	0.61
General	44.73	47.59†	-0.06	3.59
International	72.58	77.21	-0.40	1.48
Gilt Units	24.80	25.57	-0.03	8.32
Global PEP	31.94	33.98	-0.13	2.30
Income Gth	57.79	61.48	-0.11	5.72
European	37.54	39.94	-0.24	1.33
Gilt/Fixed Int	24.33	25.88†	-0.05	6.44
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricebank: 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst**	26.39	28.22	-0.11	2.01
Pru Csh Hvn Inc	101.48	101.48	+0.02	6.69
-do- Acc	103.25	103.25	+0.01	6.69
Pru Equity	621.01	664.18	-0.95	2.82
Pru Equity Inc	74.44	79.61	-0.20	4.56
Pru European	149.60	160.00†	-0.66	2.11
Pru Global Gth	70.34	75.22	-0.20	1.71
Pru High Inc	79.49	85.01†	-0.26	5.75
Pru Intl	134.85	144.22†	-0.69	1.50
Pru Intl Sm Co	57.33	61.31	-0.23	1.05
Pru Japanese	126.76	135.57	-0.67	...
Pru Nth Amer	128.71	137.65	-0.39	0.51
Pru Pacific Mkt	61.32	65.58	-0.40	2.15
Pru Prefnr Inc	47.76	49.72†	-0.21	7.70
Pru Smllr Cos	73.31	78.40	-0.32	2.67
Pru Spec Sits	91.72	98.09†	-0.05	2.71
Pru UK Growth	103.36	110.54	-0.17	2.62
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
Income	143.30	154.32	-1.42	4.01
Japan	194.61	208.69	-1.09	...
Major UK Cos	88.57	95.32†	-0.73	2.79
America Income	422.33	452.68	-1.17	0.73
-do- Acc	490.54	525.78	-1.36	0.73
Smllr UK Cos	229.49	249.87	-0.45	2.14
Smllr European	214.86	229.06	-0.30	1.84
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	64.60	68.72	-0.79	3.99
Capital Units	128.10	136.20†	-1.00	1.71
Commodity	81.20	86.38	-1.18	1.32
European Gth	131.30	139.50	-1.50	1.35
Financial Sec	147.50	156.90†	-1.10	2.41
High Return	197.30	209.80†	-2.00	5.18
High Yield	195.10	207.50	-1.90	4.81
Income Units	99.99	106.30	-0.80	7.70
Investment	149.10	158.60	-1.40	1.87
Japan Gth	100.40	106.80	-0.50	...
Japan Smaller	138.40	147.20	-0.70	...
Masterfund	40.02	42.57†	-0.27	1.37
Scotbits	214.80	228.50†	-1.70	2.42
Scotshares	235.40	250.40†	-0.90	4.17
Scotyields	211.90	225.40	-2.50	4.47
Select Intl	112.50	119.60	-1.20	0.77
Smaller Cos	196.90	209.40	-0.30	4.90
Special Situation	99.43	105.70	-0.80	0.90
UK Equity	210.00	223.40	-1.10	3.32
US Growth	128.00	136.10	-0.40	0.38
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client Enq: 0800 526 535. Broker Enq: 0800 526 540				
American	224.73	239.71	+2.14	0.62
-do- Acc	242.79	258.97	+2.31	0.62
Australian	110.59	117.96	+1.25	0.30
-do- Acc	129.17	137.78	+1.46	0.30
UK Enterprise	183.95	196.21†	-0.87	3.04
-do- Acc	212.47	226.64	-1.00	3.04
European Gth	54.15	57.75†	+0.29	1.42
-do- Acc	56.05	59.78	+0.30	1.42
Euro Smllr Cos	47.98	51.17†	+0.34	0.82
-do- Acc	48.36	51.57	+0.34	0.82
Far Eastern Gth	55.60	59.30	+0.27	...
-do- Acc	56.49	60.26	+0.28	...
Fixed Interest	51.16	53.96	-0.15	7.10
-do- Acc	61.39	64.64	-0.17	7.10
Gilt Income	100.60	106.07	-0.26	8.80
-do- Acc	136.02	143.41	-0.35	8.80
Income	275.97	294.36	-0.74	4.53
-do- Acc	799.33	852.64	-2.11	4.53
Japan Enterprise	47.08	50.21	+0.28	...
-do- Acc	47.08	50.21	+0.28	...
Japan Smllr Cos	297.63	317.47†	+2.47	...
-do- Acc	298.23	318.10	+2.47	...
Pacific Gth	72.42	77.24	+0.18	0.89
-do- Acc	74.17	79.11	+0.19	0.89
Smaller Cos	163.15	174.02†	-0.35	1.76
-do- Acc	186.97	199.44	-0.39	1.76
Tokyo	76.36	81.45	+0.41	...
-do- Acc	77.14	82.27	+0.41	...
UK Equity	187.73	200.24†	-0.40	3.42
-do- Acc	347.65	370.80	-0.74	3.42
US Smllr Cos	114.17	121.78	+1.00	...
-do- Acc	114.17	121.78	+1.00	...
World Fd	63.73	67.97	...	1.93
-do- Acc	66.67	71.11	-0.01	1.93
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	37.90	40.36	-1.40	5.23
Equity Strategy	57.71	61.46	-0.59	2.69
European Opps	62.03	66.06	-0.82	3.22
Maximum Inc	100.26	102.90	+0.02	6.74
UK Smaller Cos	44.34	47.22	-0.28	3.80
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	322.30	344.70	...	3.25
American	227.40	241.60	-0.70	1.01
Pacific	250.90	268.30	-1.30	0.94
European	390.40	417.50	-2.30	1.40
Worldwide	70.42	75.32	-0.11	1.61
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	286.70	305.10†	-2.30	3.15
UK Sm Cos Eqy	182.00	193.70†	-0.60	3.10
European	288.20	306.70	-1.20	1.91
North American	233.80	248.80	-0.30	0.62
Income Plus Inc	58.82	62.58	-0.77	4.17
UK Spec Sits	61.91	65.87	-0.62	2.72
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	23.63	25.25	-0.20	3.47
Intl Growth Acc	24.05	25.74	-0.10	1.35
Global Inc Acc	28.18	30.16†	-0.06	4.19
Market Ldrs Acc	24.11	25.81	-0.22	3.56
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	76.42	81.73	-0.77	...
Euro Spec Sits	37.60	39.95	-0.03	...
-do- Acc	39.81	42.30	-0.03	...
Far East Opps	25.58	27.65†	+0.02	...
-do- Acc	26.39	28.41	-0.02	...
General Growth	92.98	99.86	-0.24	2.96
Global Tech	113.80	122.80†	+0.20	...
Income Growth	92.12	99.13	-0.60	4.21
Income Monthly	53.67	57.40	-0.09	6.05
Japan Growth	58.21	61.88†	-0.20	...
Overseas Gth	64.90	69.07†	-0.17	...
Smaller Cos	63.94	68.75	...	2.32
Special Opps	84.44	90.79	+0.17	2.54
Wld Spec Sits	38.92	41.62†	-0.19	...
-do- Acc	39.00	42.02†	-0.19	...
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	40.31	42.83	-0.40	1.80
UK Eq General	39.91	42.41	-0.40	2.47
-do- Acc	52.36	55.64	-0.40	2.47
European Acc	36.35	38.63	-0.40	1.36
Far East Acc	42.11	44.75	-0.20	0.41
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	29.32	31.01	-0.20	6.91
N American Acc	41.54	44.14	-0.40	0.88
Ots Lgr Cos Acc	229.40	248.90	-2.20	1.79
UK Eq High Inc	32.49	34.53	-0.60	4.01
-do- Acc	38.06	40.44	-0.60	4.01
UK Lgr Cos Inc	274.90	298.30	-3.30	3.85
UK Lgr Cos Acc	353.60	383.70	-4.20	3.85
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	NZ$23.20	NZ$23.47†	...	0.69
US Eq	$1.864	$1.981	...	0.99
Far East Eq	Y198.0	Y210.3	...	...
Japan Eq	Y197.2	Y209.5	...	...
FT Europe	103.60	110.10	...	1.16
FT North Am	$1.666	$1.770	...	0.87
FT Japan	Y193.6	Y205.0	...	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	100.70	107.00	...	1.45
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	325.10	345.10	-2.20	0.31
British	885.80	937.20	-1.60	4.81
European	333.40	344.40	-1.80	1.84
Japan	106.00	112.70	-0.20	...
New Pacific	249.80	266.00	-2.90	1.58
Mngd Cash	95.50	95.50	...	6.48
Majority Stg	99.65	100.65	...	6.25
Inv Tst	163.30	173.10	-0.30	2.23
Saints PPP	329.00	346.40	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin, 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	681.60	729.00†	-5.40	2.76
N America Acc	102.30	109.40†	-0.30	0.46
Far East Acc	96.58	103.30†	-1.20	0.29
W wide Bond	56.30	59.66	-0.23	5.60
European	71.24	76.19	-0.16	0.76
Equity Income	74.54	79.72†	-0.79	4.44
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	31.78	33.99	-0.15	0.68
Managed Assets	109.68	117.31†	-0.57	3.80
UK Income	33.82	36.18†	-0.22	4.12
UK Growth	34.08	36.45	-0.18	2.80
Worldwide Gth	26.65	28.51	-0.12	0.69
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	183.55	195.27	-0.17	0.36
-do- Acc	201.60	214.47	-0.18	0.36
British Gth	79.55	84.63	-0.04	2.28
-do- Acc	92.93	98.75	-0.05	2.28
European	79.98	85.08	+0.42	0.78
-do- Acc	84.37	89.75	+0.45	0.78
Extra Inc	168.58	179.34	+1.10	4.91
-do- Acc	264.66	281.55	+1.73	4.91
General Unit	248.46	264.32†	+1.62	2.74
-do- Acc	490.14	521.43	+3.19	2.74
Income	296.40	315.32	+2.15	3.93
-do- Acc	603.72	642.26	+4.38	3.93
International	436.10	463.94	+1.48	0.70
-do- Acc	570.05	606.44	+1.93	0.70
Pacific	273.54	291.00	-3.56	0.06
-do- Acc	286.48	304.77	-3.72	0.06
Premier Income	49.33	51.39	-0.12	7.50
-do- Acc	99.77	103.93	-0.24	7.50
Nat Resources	79.28	84.34	+0.48	...
-do- Acc	86.94	92.49	+0.53	...
Selected Opps	87.98	93.60	+0.89	1.25
-do- Acc	109.87	116.88	+1.11	1.25
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	110.80	118.70†	-0.40	0.44
Australia	5.982	6.40	-0.05	1.25
Equity	167.90	179.70†	-0.30	5.70
Euro Spec Sits	125.20	132.90	-0.30	0.65
Financial	34.07	36.50	-0.05	3.32
Global Opps Inc	77.84	83.38	-0.13	2.41
-do- Acc	80.69	86.43	-0.13	2.41
Gold Gen Inc	34.32	36.80	-0.40	1.20
-do- Acc	65.48	70.24	-0.81	1.20
Income	108.60	116.30†	-0.10	5.32
Japan General	108.50	115.50	-0.10	...
Preference	20.50	22.15†	...	9.19
UK Capital	96.48	103.30	-0.10	3.27
Worldwide Cap	170.60	191.90†	-0.30	3.35
World Income	73.79	78.64†	-0.08	3.87
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545				
Amer Sml Cos	71.51	76.22	-1.46	...
-do- Acc	73.76	78.67	-1.51	...
Cash	50.80	50.80	+0.01	6.99
-do- Acc	60.46	60.46	...	6.99
European Opps	53.60	57.09	-0.45	0.52
-do- Acc	54.16	57.69	-0.43	0.52
Far East Opps	120.15	128.16	-0.84	0.76
-do- Acc	122.96	131.14	-0.86	0.76
Gold/Nat Res	30.66	32.70	-0.44	...
-do- Acc	31.53	33.63	-0.46	...
Japan	56.58	60.25	-0.45	...
-do- Acc	56.58	60.25	-0.45	...
Little Dragons	55.84	59.56	-0.53	0.84
-do- Acc	57.30	61.11	-0.53	0.84
Oriental Income	35.57	37.94	-0.08	4.19
-do- Acc	44.91	47.90	-0.08	4.19
Tiger	178.38	190.27	-1.44	1.38
-do- Acc	186.59	199.02	-1.50	1.38
UK Small Cos	60.35	64.54	-0.14	2.52
-do- Acc	69.19	74.00	-0.16	2.52
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	206.80	220.60	-1.80	4.81
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australian Gold	9.17	9.75	+0.07	0.50
Pacific Basin	26.59	28.28	-0.03	0.60
Canadian Gth	31.56	33.57	-0.14	0.10
Global Bond	$0.949	$0.988	+0.001	7.44
Penny Share	18.83	20.03	...	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	51.02	51.92†	+0.01	6.92
Gilt Growth	62.98	65.54†	-0.20	...
Gilt Income	50.58	52.63†	-0.15	8.69
Short Dtd Gilt	107.10	108.50	-0.20	4.47
US Govmnt Bd	$0.704	$0.714	+0.000	...
Challenger	86.75	88.77	-0.59	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 0705 388866				
Stockmarket Fd	63.59	67.64	-0.40	2.35

Source: Finstat

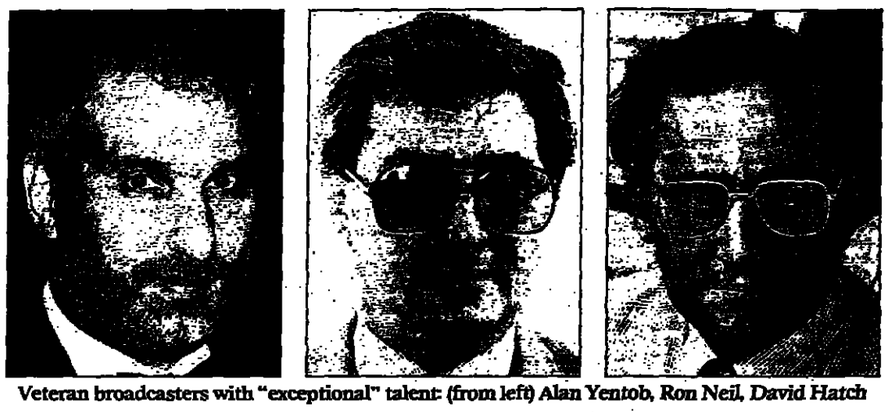
* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle

Birt's mission to inspire

Peter Fiddick looks at the new director-general's plans to manage the BBC's progress towards the millennium



New brooms at the BBC: (from left) the director-general John Birt, Liz Forgan, Robert Phillis



Veteran broadcasters with "exceptional" talent: (from left) Alan Yentob, Ron Neil, David Hatch

It says a lot about the persona of the BBC in the past couple of years that one of the most immediately striking elements of the new director-general's first public statement on Monday, and of the press conference which followed, was the way in which praise was scattered around, much of it for existing members of the staff.

You would expect John Birt to boost the two imported top-guns, and Robert Phillis, Mr Birt's new deputy, and Liz Forgan were duly — and in most people's view properly — introduced as drawn from the *crème de la crème* of British broadcasting. But David Hatch, who Ms Forgan replaces as managing director of radio, was sent upstairs in style: "He has been a splendid inspirational leader in radio and a most effective manager — he leaves his successor a rich legacy."

This sounds more enthusiastic than the customary salute to the enforced departee. Staff at Broadcasting House, as well as their long-time colleague and boss, might have been happier hearing it said rather earlier in these past unsettling months.

But here too were Alan Yentob, coupled with Ms Forgan in the programme strategy review as "two of the most creative talents in our industry", and Ron Neil, praised for his management of change in regional broadcasting. And, overall, Marmaduke Hussey's reference to "an already highly talented management team". If the BBC's leaders are at last going to beat the drum and blow the odd trumpet, it will not be a moment too soon. "Inspirational leadership" is exactly what people throughout the BBC, and the industry, are looking for as the management of change continues.

And management, rather than inspiration, is what many of Mr Birt's concerns are seen to remain. If one of the smallest proposals in his 35-page address, the idea of developing the BBC's in-house Master's Degree in management, seems destined to give a hostage to the satirists, some of the bigger ones — that annual performance review, for example, with all its layers andobjectives — still need to be explained in terms which make their relevance to releasing creativity, his avowed and welcome aim, more directly apparent.

The programme strategy review is clearly programme-related, and its central aim of producing a publishable philosophy for each channel is crucial to the wider debate about the BBC's role in the 1990s.

The still unfinished turmoil about the plans for Radio 4 Long Wave and rolling news, or the roasting which Nicholas Kenyon had to endure (unjustified, in this Radio 3 listener's view) at the start of his controller's phone-in last week, point not just to die-hard loyalties but also to the extent to which the detail of programming contributes to such loyalties.

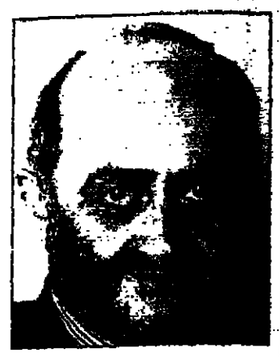
Ms Forgan, coming from Channel 4, will at least be aware of the benefits of having a channel with a strong image, even though that may conceal very disparate audiences.

If the two television channels will inevitably be the main focus for discussion in the wider world, it would be a great pity if we had to wait until the whole programme strategy review is completed — the deadline is December — before hearing more about Ms Forgan's main patch, radio. The last important BBC statement, the *Extending Choice* document, seems to put Radios 3 and 4 in the clear while only murmuring vaguely about Radios 1, 2 and 5.

Not that the denizens of Broadcasting House are expecting a quiet time. Ms Forgan's reputation, as a charming, articulate ambassador to the outside world, but quite capable of making waves for colleagues, has gone ahead of her. But some waves might be welcome.

At least, now, there is hope the talk can revert to programmes and ideas. Maybe we shall hear less about a "Single Coherent Broadcasting Organisation" — that lamentably limp chapter heading in *Extending Choice* — and more about the BBC.

Play fair, politicians



WINSTON FLETCHER

The Advertising Standards Authority yesterday announced — at long last, unkind critics might say — that in future political advertising will no longer be allowed to be dishonest and untruthful. Not that every political advertisement has been dishonest and untruthful in the past. But some have, and the ASA has known it, and has been unable to do anything about it. However, from April 13 most political advertisements will be subject to the same rules as commercial advertisements.

As a member of the ASA Council for the past seven years, I can say that many council members have grown increasingly frustrated as they have seen political advertisers publish blatant inaccuracies and get away with it. Advertisements from pressure groups, trades unions, charities and trade associations — supporting left, right and centre — have all published claims which the ASA knew to be untrue but was powerless to stop.

The ASA's hands have been tied by a self-imposed ordinance which prohibited it from investigating the accuracy of any advertisement that "expresses an opinion on a controversial matter relating to public policy or practice". Such advertisements, like all others, had to be legal and decent; but, unlike all others, did not have to be honest or truthful.

The justifications for this rule were threefold. Firstly, and most importantly, the ASA has always believed that it should not interfere in the political process, and that it should never hinder political debate. The ASA, it is argued, exists to protect the public from rogue traders not from roguish politicians.

Secondly, political "facts" are often matters of controversy. Government and opposition can, and frequently do, bicker about the true level of unemployment or the real level of inflation.

Thirdly, political affairs frequently move so quickly that by the time the ASA could investigate, the issues involved would be history. The advertising would have achieved its aims and the ASA's ruling would seem pointless.

The arguments are powerful. But set against them is the fact that political and quasi-political advertisers have grown increasingly aware that they can say what they like with impunity.

The situation became a running sore. To resolve it an independent working group was set up in June 1992 under the chairmanship of Richard Wade, director general of the Advertising Association. Its conclusions were unanimous.

In future "claims capable of objective assessment upon a generally agreed basis" will come within the ASA's remit. In other words "facts" which are manifestly untrue will no longer be permitted. "Facts" which are the subject of dispute, or which are, in reality, disguised expressions of opinion, will continue to be acceptable. Difficult lines will doubtless need to be drawn — but the ASA is forced to take borderline decisions every day of the week. It is difficult to decide whether a sports car advertisement is simply extolling the vehicle's performance or is encouraging unsafe driving.

The new controls will apply to all political advertisements except during election campaigns. This exemption reflects the ASA's continued determination not to interfere with the cut and thrust of political free speech.

THE closing date for entries in the National Newspaper Campaign *Advertising Awards*, which will celebrate the creativity of newspaper advertising and are destined to be the biggest awards in newspaper history, is January 25. The jury consists of six editors — Sir David English, Max Hastings, Kelvin MacKenzie, Sir Nicholas Lloyd, Peter Preston and Bridget Rowe — and five advertising gurus — David Abbott, Tim Delaney, John Hegarty, Jeremy Sinclair and Robin Wight, with Maurice Saatchi in the chair.

A very merry Christmas — glued to the TV

Stuffed with turkey, and obviously too bloated to play with all the new toys, the British family settled down after lunch on Christmas day and watched television and watched and watched. Average viewing was 5hrs 46mins, compared with the usual four hours a day.

Throughout the eight hours from 3pm until 11pm, apart from a small blip after the Queen's broadcast when a million dogs must have been taken for a walk, at least 20 million were watching television — rising at around 7pm to more than 27 million, a fascinating commentary on the sedentary Christmas of the television age.

Christmas day was a triumph for the BBC which screened nine of the ten most popular programmes and won 61 per cent of the total audience. BBC2 also beat Channel 4 for the minority audience, screening seven of the top ten programmes. After 3pm, the only ITV programme that won a bigger audience than the BBC was *Coronation Street* with an audience of 12.9 million against 10.4 million for *Bruce Forsyth's Generation Game* on BBC1.

The viewing figures also demonstrate the widespread use of video recorders to watch favourite programmes at times that suit family convenience. Two million viewers watched *Only Fools and Horses* on video and there were a million video viewers for five of the other programmes in the top ten. With repeats on BBC2 and Channel 4 and video viewing, the total audience for *The Queen* was 19.6 million.

BRIAN MACARTHUR

Programme	Chnl	Live(m)+VCR	
Only Fools & H'ses	BBC1	18.2	20.1
The Queen	BBC1/ITV1	17.6	17.8
Birds of a Feather	BBC1	15.8	16.8
Indiana Jones	BBC1	14.7	15.8
News and Weather	BBC1	14.8	14.9
EastEnders	BBC1	14.1	15.1
Coronation Street	ITV1	12.9	13.9
Shirley Valentine	BBC1	13.0	13.8
Victoria Wood	BBC1	12.4	13.0
Bruce Forsyth	BBC1	10.4	10.9

Programme	Chnl	Vwrs(m)
Tex Avery	BBC2	2.9
Dangerous Liaisons	BBC2	2.9
Freddie Mercury	BBC2	2.3
Lilsly Lads	BBC2	2.1
The Snowman	C4	1.8
Reindeer Rock	BBC2	1.6
Rio Bravo	BBC2	1.5
Brookside	C4	1.5
Nigel Mansell	BBC2	1.4
Bob Dylan	C4	1.1

Source: BARB/TheMediaFactor

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BBC South - Bristol

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You will need to demonstrate sound editorial judgement and relevant journalistic experience. We want good writers who can handle a 20 second trail as confidently as the intro to a leading story.

It's a bi-media newsroom which means you'll be working for radio as well as television. A current driving licence is essential and a knowledge of the *News West* area will help.

News West operates in a multi-cultural environment and we would encourage applications from suitably qualified candidates from ethnic communities as they are currently under-represented in this area.

Salary £18,081 - £25,686 p.a. (1 year contracts) plus an allowance of £3,130.

For an application form send an s.a.e. to (quote ref. 11556/T) Assistant, Recruitment Services, BBC Broadcasting House, Bristol BS8 2LR.

Application forms to be returned by January 25th.

World Service Production Trainees

BBC World Service

These Traineeships provide two years' comprehensive training and experience in radio programme production in World Service.

BBC World Service broadcasts in 38 languages including the World Service in English. News and current affairs are the heart of the operation but we also produce features, drama, sport, music and other specialist programmes. World Service also has an expanding television service providing news bulletins and programmes for viewers overseas.

If you want to work in a fast-moving international environment, we're looking for people with political awareness and sensitivity, overseas work experience and specialist knowledge of another part of the world, an informed interest in international affairs, writing ability, a suitable broadcasting voice and the capacity to generate ideas and turn them into effective radio programmes for international audiences. It is important that you should have listened to our output and be prepared to discuss both it and news topics of the day.

The initial salary will be £14,192, plus an allowance of £1,565 and is reviewed at the end of the first year. Based Central London.

For an application pack contact (quote ref. 11532/T) BBC Corporate Recruitment Services, PO Box 7000, London W12 7ZY. Tel: 081-749 7000 Minicom 081-752 5151 by January 22nd.

The Royal Greenwich Observatory in Cambridge has a vacancy for a Scientific Editor to work in Her Majesty's Nautical Almanac Office. The post will be at Higher Scientific Officer Level and candidates must have a degree in a scientific, engineering or mathmatical subject, and have had at least two years relevant experience.

SCIENTIFIC EDITOR

The HM Nautical Almanac Office publishes five almanacs each year and a Scientific Editor is required to provide a special expertise particularly in the area of personal computing. You should have a flair for incorporating modern technology into the products the Almanac produces. Your duties will include presenting publications and data services in novel ways, for example as computer software for use on personal computers. Candidates should write well and produce clear explanatory material, and will be required to undertake editorial duties regarding the organisation and production of the Almanac for printing.

Salaries will be in the range of £12,833 - £17,916 dependent on age and experience for a 42 hour week.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from Denise Peck, Personnel Section, Royal Greenwich Observatory, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel (0223) 374874.

Closing date for applications is 29th January 1993.

The Royal Greenwich Observatory is an equal opportunities employer.

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(Readvertisement)

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Please write with your CV and tell me why we should consider your application.

Tricia Neill
News International Exhibitions Ltd
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Commercials Direct
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A Saudi Medical Company based in Jeddah has a vacancy for a Sales & Marketing Manager.

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MUSIC page 30
The veteran Russian pianist Tatyana Nikolaeva shows her class at the Wigmore

ARTS

SCULPTURE page 31
After decades of stark modernist facades, architects relearn the gentle art of decoration



CLASSICAL MUSIC: **Richard Morrison** on a book which suggests that today's performers may have got it all wrong

Masters' voices go unheeded

Never judge a book by its cover. *Early Recordings and Musical Style* is an innocuous title, redolent of dusty research that might receive earnest discussion in an esoteric corner of *Gramophone* magazine. But the content of Robert Philip's book (recently published by Cambridge University Press) is dynamite. Or at least it should be, because it blows apart many assumptions underlying present-day music-making.

Philip, a Cambridge academic who has revelled in the crackle and hiss of ancient 78s for years, launches a many-pronged assault. First he draws attention to the way that composers of the early 20th century — Elgar, Stravinsky, Rachmaninov, Holst, Richard Strauss — conducted their own music on record. Why, he asks, do we perform that music in a different a style, when the evidence is plain for all to hear?

> 'The Elgar generation put content before precision'

After all, that generation of composers was the first to use the recording studio as a tool of communication (the *ultimate* tool, Philip would argue). Stravinsky in particular relished it. He rarely missed an opportunity to announce that his view of his music was the only legitimate one. Yet if a conductor today performed a early 20th-century score as the composer himself performed it, the result would be ridiculed, not applauded for its authenticity.

Consider the differences. They start with the very instruments. Wooden flutes and gut violin strings, for instance, lasted well after the first world war (the Royal Philharmonic still used wooden flutes in 1950). String playing was rarely at odds with modern custom: portamento (sliding between the notes) was deployed as it suited individuals; vibrato much more sparingly used; and players bowed the notes as they pleased.

Most important, written rhythms were treated much less literally. What Philip describes as "an informality, an improvisational quality" had not yet been sacrificed on the altar of technical perfection. And the recordings also reveal the nuances that the composers wanted: the little hesitations and accents that bring music to life.

Philip says that we have been too dismissive of these composer-led performances. Vital stylistic clues — the rhythmic licence, the metrical flexibility, the sheer nervous energy and velocity of some Elgar and Holst recordings — are written off as symptoms of technical incompetence, inadequate control or slapdash preparation.

To put it bluntly, we are arrogant. We think that Elgar or Strauss tolerated playing which we regard as inferior because they could obtain no better. The thought that perhaps they liked their music played in that style rarely occurs to us. Philip maintains that "the general change in emphasis has been from the characterisation of musical events to the reproduction of a text". In other words, the Elgar generation put content before precision; we tend to do the opposite.

Modern-day performers will rightly point out that worthwhile music can be interpreted in dozens of different ways and still sound valid. Indeed, there are marked differences between recordings of the same work made by Stravinsky in different decades. What's more, composers are often ill-equipped to bring out the essence of their music. After all, Formula One racing cars are not best driven by the engineers who build them. Nevertheless, it does seem that our age's pride in performing music in a "historically aware" manner breaks down when confronted by the evidence of early recordings. We cannot contemplate imitating their style, because we are repulsed by certain aspects of it.

Philip then considers early 20th-century recordings of 19th-century repertoire: Chopin and Schubert recorded by Paderewski, or Tchaikovsky and Brahms conducted by Mengelberg. Again, the style seems, to our ears, in lamentable taste. One passage in a 1926 recording of Brahms's Second Symphony by the Royal Albert Hall Orchestra averages a portamento every four notes. Mantovani would have blushed; we wince.

Yet surely, argues Philip, these musicians were much closer to the 19th century performing style than we are today. So we should learn from how they play the core romantic repertoire. The case of Mengelberg is persuasive, because he was a conductor who rehearsed his orchestra (the Concertgebouw) to the last detail. So his portamentos and rhythmic freedoms are hardly due to carelessness.

But the last, and subtlest, part of Philip's argument is the most devastating. He asks the question: if we had *no* recordings of Elgar and Strauss conducting their music, would we be able to reconstruct how they performed it merely from looking at the score and examining contemporary descriptions? The answer, he suggests, is an emphatic no. Of course there are many eyewitness accounts from that period. The problem is that if a critic and his readers take it for granted that, say, a string section will slither between notes at every opportunity, the phenomenon won't be mentioned at all. As for the instructions in the score, Philip demonstrates that Elgar, swept away by the excitement of performing, often drove a coach and horses through his own markings.

Then Philip lands his knockout blow. For any music-making before 1880, the written evidence is all we have. All the huge claims by performers of the last 20 years — about using "period instruments" for "historically aware" performances — are based entirely on study of those writings. But if they are as unreliable as they appear to be in the period 1900-30, they are worse than useless, because they instil a false certainty.

"Musicians do not necessarily do what they say, or follow the advice of teachers or contemporary writers," writes Philip, adding slyly: "The importance of this for students of earlier periods is obvious." He is implying that, far from recreating the music of Bach or Handel as "the composer himself might have heard it" (the immortal phrase that has launched a thousand CDs), we are actually recreating it in the high-tech, precise, pristine style that chimes with modern taste.

So is all musical scholarship useless, at least as far as its practical application is concerned? Clearly not. If a contemporary witness writes that Handel performed *Messiah* with two men and a dog, then we can be sure that the Victorians were on the wrong planet when they performed it with 4,000 voices. And the music of certain periods — the French baroque, for instance — remains skeletal without reference to contemporary textbooks.

Philip's book, however, should jolt musicians. Those playing in symphony orchestras should think twice (if they ever thought about it once) before applying that luscious vibrato to every note, like a smearing of ketchup on every chip, when the evidence suggests that Brahms and Wagner would have been appalled by the notion. As for those specialising in earlier music, well, fewer of those inflated claims about authenticity from you, please. You are tailoring your interpretations to please the ears of Mr Classic FM Listener, just like everybody else.

One last irony. Recordings may reveal how far we have travelled from the musical style of just 60 years ago. But it has probably been the experience of hearing themselves on recordings which persuaded musicians literally to "get their act together", to cut out the thrills and spills. Paradoxically, if recording had not been invented, we might still be performing in much the same style as our grandparents. In which case, we would have no need of old recordings to show us how different they were.

COURTESY OF EMI RECORDS



The opening of Abbey Road recording studios in St John's Wood, London, in 1931. Elgar is on the conductor's rostrum; George Bernard Shaw is seated, centre

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** on a Dutch staging of a milestone in British music theatre

Punch loses none of its impact

The premiere of Birtwistle's **Punch and Judy** took place at Aldeburgh in 1968 or, to put it another way, a quarter of a century ago — a sobering thought. It was a milestone in the development of 20th-century British music, one of those events after which nothing was ever quite the same again, one reason why it seems much more recent. I remember (it is long enough ago for True Confessions) disliking the piece intensely, if only at the level of ordeal-assault and almost total inaudibility of the words. The Opera Factory production of 1982 in the confined space of the Drill Hall posed similar problems, but by then the musical idiom was already much more accessible.

At the Dutch premiere given by the Netherlands Opera in Amsterdam on Saturday, the comparatively wide open spaces of the Muziektheater gave the score room to breathe, and the over-riding impression was of the sheer beauty of so much of the contemplative writing rather than its famed violence and violence. This was thanks mainly to the superlative playing of the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Oliver Knussen, who successfully laid bare the clean musical structure of the work's single, 110-minute span, though without quite disguising uncertain pacing in the first 20 of them. (It is said that Birtwistle is considering some nips and tucks in *Gawain*, which I think would be harmful, but discreet lightening in *Punch* might not come amiss.) To be sure, there were still problems of balance, and I have to confess that the Dutch surtitles were helpful simply as *aides-mémoire*.

The singing from a carefully chosen international cast was extremely impressive. David Wilson-Johnson's Choregos was so



Impressive singing: David Wilson-Johnson and Robert Poulton

at least that of crispness of enunciation — that one wondered afresh why it should be that he appears so seldom in opera in Britain. Although suffering from the after-effects of bronchitis, Jane Henschel (the memorable Nurse in Covent Garden's *Frau ohne Schatten*) made a similar impact as Judy, especially expressive in her "Witness, avenging gods" solo, and Lisa Saffer (Pretty Polly) was as adept at about fearlessly above the stave.

Robert Poulton's Punch (so foxy on the surface, so despairing just beneath it) and the Doctor and Lawyer of Thomas Young and James Patterson completed a cast that had plainly worked tirelessly on precision of ensemble; it is not easy to capture the notes of *Punch*, but the fact that they did not just that, but also made the vocal writing sound so grateful and the scherzo-like quartet at the Black Wedding was stunning — suggests a long and profitable period of rehearsal.

At a first viewing Pierre Audi's production did not quite convey the work's clarity of structure as cleanly as Knussen's conducting, but it was full of arresting gestures. The designs by the German artist Georg Baselitz were dominated by four 25-foot tall inflated humanoid shapes with fearsome anatomical detail, each representing — one of them a double figure — one of the protagonists. The right of the stage was Choregos's playpen-cum-sandpit, where the figures and props were reproduced in miniature as dolls. There were, then, three interconnecting spheres of action, and the sight of Wilson-Johnson manically dismembering dolls while Punch was about his grisly business centre-stage was peculiarly nasty, while the giant balloons rearing up and bobbing about brought real menace to the Nightmare sequence.

But the stages of the zodiac, the sense of repeated journeys, the passing of the seasons and the image of rebirth were either underplayed or not there at all, and the parallels with the Bach Passions — so powerfully implied through Knussen's conducting and the beauty of Wilson-Johnson's singing — were much missed, as indeed they were in Opera Factory's staging.

This profoundly elusive work, beside which *Frau ohne Schatten* reads like Enid Blyton, needs such signposts if it is to make its intended effect. As it is, this was musically the most persuasive performance I have heard, and dramatically spectacular enough in its generalised way. The Amsterdam audience received it with polite reserve rather than unbridled

AN UNLIKELY liaison between British art and German chemicals comes to fruition in Germany tomorrow. Bayer, the German industrial giant, is sponsoring an exhibition by four British artists at its headquarters in Leverkusen, as part of the company's own European arts festival. Bayer made known its intentions to British gallery owners, who put in tenders for the chance to exhibit their stables of artists. Francis Graham-Dixon won, and Bayer chose four artists from among those he represents: Sheila Girling, Clyde Hopkins, John McClean and Derek Roberts.

"It's a fantastic form of sponsorship which gives the artists a chance for their work to be seen by more people than have ever heard of them," enthuses Graham-Dixon. "I hope it will make British companies think about what their policies on art actually mean. You don't have to buy pieces to support contemporary artists; just make space to show them."

● JACK LANG, the French culture minister, has moved with customary rapidity to protect the Olympia, the last of the great Parisian music-halls, where so many famous French singers have performed. The building is now owned by a bank, the Société Générale, which wants to redevelop the whole area off the Boulevard des Capucines. The bankers have promised to preserve the music-hall in some form, without indicating whether a modest renovation was being planned or a full-scale demolition and rebuilding.

This was not good enough for Lang, who has now listed the Olympia for perpetual protection as a *lieu de mémoire* ("place of memory"). This is a rarely used but obviously convenient formula for the government. It was last employed to save a classic restaurant, Le Fouquet's, on the Champs-Élysées. The bankers are reported to be less than

Painting for chemists

ARTS BRIEFING

Nights in Venice

THE 45th Venice Biennale (June 9 to October 10) will have the title "The Cardinal Points of Art", the idea being to display the "cultural nomadism" of the 1980s and 1990s. Nations with pavilions in the Venice gardens have been asked to invite artists from countries without them, and Germany has already offered a place to the Korean artist Nam June Paik.

There will also be some special shows. "Winds of Art" will exhibit "bipolar" artists who have travelled between north and south, or east and west, starting with the emblematic figures of Delacroix, Rousseau, Gaudi, Van Gogh and Seurat. An exhibition called "The Fast Sound of Things" is dedicated to the composer John Cage. The Biennale will also pay homage to another recently deceased artistic giant, Francis Bacon.



Wrapped in his memories: Jack Lang

● AFTER all the mock-indignation triggered by the "promising young novelists" list published last week, it is the turn of young visual artists to be earmarked for greatness. Nine artists have been shortlisted for the Barclays Young Artist Award, an accolade that brings public attention and, for the winner, a prize of £10,000.

Students from Goldsmiths', the Slade and the Chelsea School of Art and Design dominate the list. After the announcement of the winner on January 26, an exhibition of candidates' work will go on show at the Serpentine Gallery from January 27 to February 28. Exhibits will range from sculpture to distorted furniture; from copies of well-known paintings to video and installation art. The nominees are Glenn Brown, Siobhan Hapaska, Louise and Jane Wilson from Goldsmiths; Renato Niemis and Laura Thompson from Chelsea; Georgina Starr, Suzanne Walker, Tacita Dean and Hilary Wilson from the Slade.

Last chance . . .

BEN STEVENSON's production of *The Nutcracker* for English National Ballet, with its glittering designs by Desmond Heeley, has proved highly popular with audiences. This year's run at the Festival Hall (071-928 8800) marks the ballet's centenary and continues until Saturday with the usual variety of casts. What continues unchanged, whatever the production or the performers, is Tchaikovsky's music, the last of the three great ballet scores he wrote, and still the chief reason why everyone wants to see this

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

LONDON

CARMEN: David Pountney's English National Opera production, which sets Bizet's drama in a Latin American used car lot, was not universally admired on its first outing in 1988. Whether or not it seems better second time around (and Pountney's stagings often don't), a strong cast should ensure high musical standards. Sally Burgess returns as Carmen. She is joined by Edmund Barham as Don José, Donald Maxwell as Escamillo, and Cathryn Pope as Micaela. Justin Brown conducts. Opening night.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161), 7.30pm

PLG YOUNG ARTISTS NEW YEAR SERIES: The Park Lane Group's regular January fixture (so successful it has now been augmented by another series in spring) offers a productive encounter between new performers and new chamber music (see review, right). This year's featured composers are Nicholas Maw and Edward McGuire. Tonight the Zanfonia Trio plays works by Ruders, Schultz and Musgrave (6.30pm); and Sasa Stefanovic, Hannah Roberts and Simon Parkin perform a mixed programme for cello and piano including the first London performance of McGuire's *Three Dialogues* (8.30pm).
Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), tonight-Fri, 6.

THE MAIDS: Ad Hoc Theatre Co presents Genet's first play in the night-club setting of Heaven. The production, directed by Christopher Payton, features designs by Derek Jarman. Two maids, played by sisters Michele and Tania Wase, swap roles in order to murder their mistress (Amanda Bellamy).
Heaven, The Arches, Villiers Street, WC2 (071-708 2553). Tonight, 9pm (gala performance in aid of St Bartholomew's Hospital, tickets £20), tomorrow-Sat, 7pm, until January 29.

KING BABY: Tom Georgeson is a businessman trying to haul his life together in James Robson's latest, set in an alcoholics' rehab unit. Simon Usher directs.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Previews from tonight, 7.15pm; opens Tues, 7pm; then in repertoire.

LOVEBITES: Through song, dance and drama, a young cast explores the daily concerns of teenagers in a new musical which grew out of the Riverside's education department.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (081-748 3354), tonight-Sat, 7.45pm.

REGIONAL

CAMBRIDGE: Gerard Murphy and Kathy Burke in Cambridge Theatre Company's touring production of Molière's **The Hypochondriac**, Nick Philippou's swansong before moving to Actors Touring Co.
Arts Theatre, Peas Lane (0223 352000). Opens tonight, 8pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm, until January 23.

BIRMINGHAM: With Anglo-Asian groups beginning to cause a stir in the rock world, this raw new band **Cornershop** abrasively clash cultures with their adrenalin-fuelled guitar, tabla and sitar music.
Edwards No 8, 15 Lower Severn Street (021-616 1695), 7.30pm.

CHICHESTER: The English **Shakespeare Company** continues its countrywide tour with *The Tempest*, under the direction of ESC founder Michael Bogdanov (Irish actress and singer Olwen Fouere is cast as Ariel) and a revival of Bogdanov's *Macbeth*.
Festival Theatre, Oaklands Park (0243 781312). *Tempest*, tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm; *Macbeth* from Tues.

GLASGOW: The Sphinx (formerly The Women's Theatre Company) present Jackie Kay's drama **Every Bit of It**. The life of blues singer Bessie Smith (played by Suzanne Bonnar) is told in a production rich in music and poetry.
Tron Theatre, 63 Trongate (041-552 4267), tonight-Sun, 7.30pm.

LEEDS: Heer Ranjha, Jatinda Verma's latest production for the cross-cultural Asian theatre company Tara Arts, continues a tour. The classic Indian story, similar to *Romeo and Juliet*, tells the tale of star-crossed lovers.
West Yorkshire Playhouse, The Quarry, Hill Mount (0532 442111), tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **CARMEN JONES:** Final week of the Hammerstein/Bizet all-black musical.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (071-928 7616). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

■ **CAROUSEL:** Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphant revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein fairground musical.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.15pm. 180mins.

☐ **THE COMEDY OF ERRORS:** Ian Judge's sublimely funny production, with award-winning Desmond Barrit playing both portly twins.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight-Sat, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, Sat, 2pm. 145mins.

☐ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC:** Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

☐ **FROM A JACK TO A KING:** Witty pastiche of *Macbeth*, set in the world of rock bands, packed with Sixties songs.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm. 120mins. Final week.

☐ **GRACE:** Anna Massey and James Laurenson in nicely acted but superficial play about televangelists in Yorkshire.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **HAY FEVER:** Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats, Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◪ **IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY:** Larks in the hospital common room: matron outraged; doctors flummoxed. Ray Cooney farce with lots of laughs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 135mins.

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND:** Anna Carteret, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

☐ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN:** Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins.

☐ **LOST IN YONKERS:** Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

◪ **ME AND MY GIRL:** Final performances of the cheerful "Lambeth Walk" musical.
Adelphi, Strand, WC2 (071-836 7611). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4.30pm. 165mins.

☐ **MISERY:** Sharon Gless and Bill Paterson in American *grand guignol*: good characterisation for Stephen King addicts.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **OUR SONG:** Peter O'Toole in Keith Waterhouse's play about a menopausal male's infatuation with a young woman. Neatly done though we only hear the man's point of view.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8.15pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. 135mins.

☐ **THE PRISONER OF ZENDA:** David Haig plays the dashing Rudolph Rassendyll in the best of all romantic adventures, staged with exuberance, laughs and really exciting sword fights.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm.

◪ **THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE:** Alison Steadman and Jane Horrocks in Jim Cartwright's play about a shy girl escaping her raucous mother. Ingenious but incredible. A National Theatre transfer.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT:** Simon Cadell, John Wells, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's *novel*.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

☐ **TRELAWNY OF THE 'WELLS':** Pinero's comedy about theatre folk in mid-Victorian London. Successful only in parts and the minor parts at that. Stars Michael Hordern and Sarah Brightman.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 150mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Arts Theatre (071-836 2132) . . . ☐ **Dancing at Lughnasa**: Garrick (071-494 5085) . . . ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ◪ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

DANZON: Mexican telephone operator searches for lost dancing partner. Intoxicating music, good atmosphere, and a plot gently going nowhere. Director, María Novaro.
ICA (071-930 3647).

L.627 (15): The Paris police drugs squad's daily routine: stake-outs, violence, paperwork. Vividly filmed by Bertrand Tavernier, though too long for its material. Starring Didier Bezace, Nils Tavernier.
Lumière (071-836 0691).

MAN TROUBLE (15): Ellen Barkin hires Jack Nicholson's guard dog but finds no security. Talent wasted in dreadful comedy from director Bob Rafelson and the writer of *Five Easy Pieces*, Carole Eastman.
Odeon Haymarket (0426 915353).

RAISING CAIN (15): Split personality John Lithgow kidnaps kids, terrorises Lolita Davidovich, and bores the audience. Ludicrous hokum from director Brian De Palma.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636). **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310).

◆ **RESERVOIR DOGS** (18): A jewel robbery goes haywire. Quirky tale of betrayal, loyalty and violence from bright new talent Quentin Tarantino. Stars Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520).

CURRENT

BLADE RUNNER (15): The improved "director's cut" of Ridley Scott's influential vision of a dark, hellish L.A., infested with rebel androids. Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279/379 7025) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

◆ **THE BODYGUARD** (15): Kevin Costner as the bodyguard who falls for his showbiz charge (Whitney Houston). Jumbled drama, from a 1975 Lawrence Kasdan script. Director, Mick Jackson.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

CHAPLIN (12): A skilled impersonation by Robert Downey Jr., but Richard Attenborough's bitty biographical epic never penetrates far inside the man or his career.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Odeon Leicester Square** (0426 915683).

◆ **DEATH BECOMES HER** (PG): Meryl Streep and Goldie Hawn battle to attain eternal youth. Ice-cold black comedy, ultimately swamped by special effects. Stars Bruce Willis; director, Robert Zemeckis.
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **A FEW GOOD MEN** (15): Cocky naval lawyer (Tom Cruise) defends marines accused of murder. Devilishly seductive courtroom drama starring Demi Moore, Jack Nicholson; director, Rob Reiner.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574)

◆ **OF MICE AND MEN** (PG): Steinbeck's classic with John Malkovich as the slow-witted Lennie; director Gary Sinise as his protector. Simple, sturdy and moving.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

◆ **STRICTLY BALLROOM** (PG): One dancer's fight to defy the rules of the Australian Ballroom Dancing Federation. Ebullient, intoxicating debut by director Baz Luhrmann.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683).

TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12): Wonderful, melancholy portrait of French Baroque musicians Sainte-Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle) and his pupil Marin Marais (Gérard and Guillaume Depardieu); director, Alain Corneau.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366).

A WINTER'S TALE (12): A Paris hairdresser's quest for true love. Eric Rohmer near his best: elegant, clear-eyed, realistic. A film laced with magic. Stars Charlotte Véry.
Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) **Renoir** (071-837 8402).

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** reviews an 18th-century French comedy at the National

Adieu to finesse, 'Allo 'Allo farce

The Game of Love and Chance
Cottesloe

SERIOUS Parisians of the 1720s and 1730s had little time for Marivaux and never dreamed that he might one day be recognised as a successor to Molière. Voltaire famously sneered that he "weighed flies' eggs in scales of gossamer". The riposte to that was, and is, that such an enterprise is difficult, delicate and scientifically interesting; but that is not an argument that greatly appeals to Mike Alfreds and Neil Bartlett, who have directed the present revival. There are times when they seem to be weighing gaudily painted dodos' eggs on a speak-your-kilos machine on Blackpool pier.

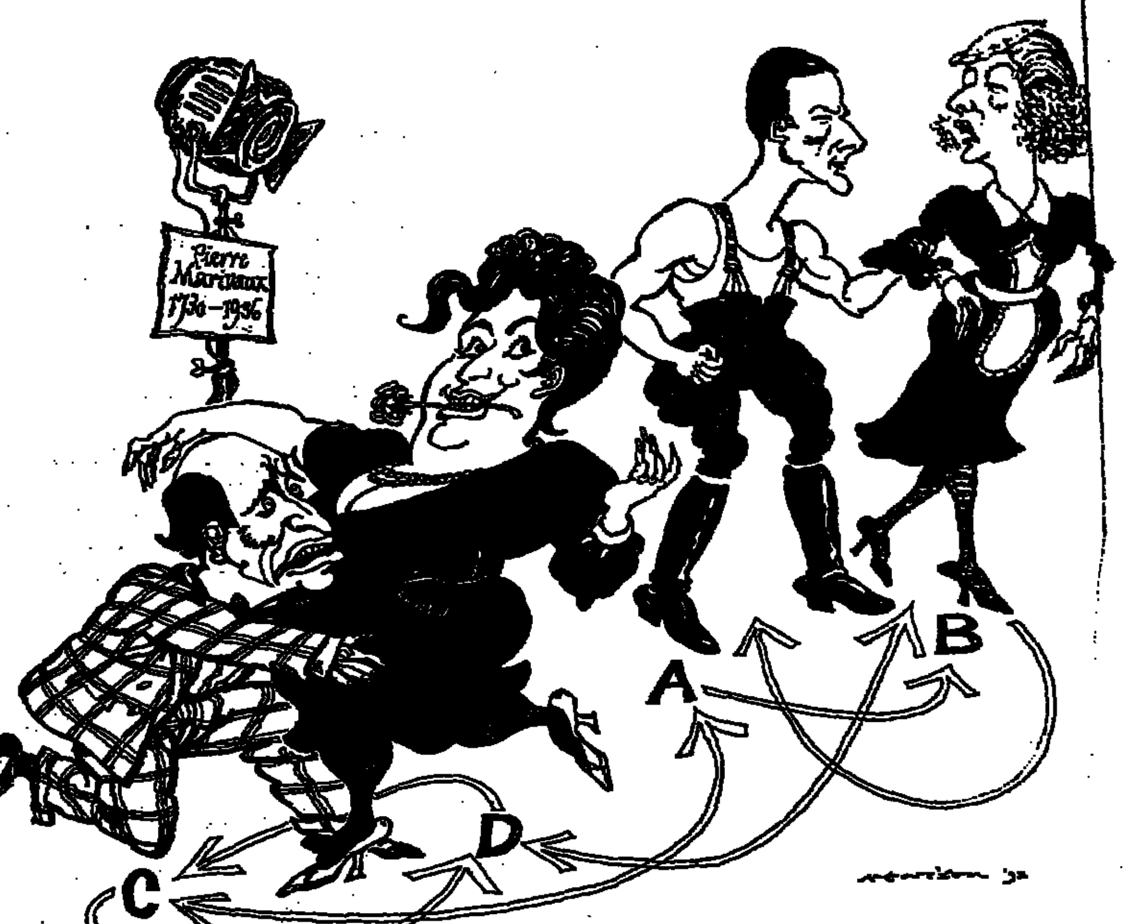
It is a play of pointed disguises and deft deceptions. Silvia, mistrustful of the suitor her wealthy father has chosen for her, gets his permission to exchange roles with her maid Lisette in order to be able surreptitiously to observe him. What she does not know is that her husband-to-be, Durrant, is making a similar swap with his servant, who in this production, updated to Coward's 1920s, is a chauffeur called Birmingham. In this socially layered world, what happens is pretty inevitable. Against all the taboos, the phoney servants find they have an affinity for each other, as do the fake nobs.

Snobbish, dated stuff? In some ways. *But the play's enduring strength is to be found in Marivaux's subtle psychological comedy.* Here is a fine young sprig trying not to fall for a girl in a frilly apron, and, more importantly, here is a fastidious heiress desperately lying to herself about her growing passion for this jumped-up motor mechanic. But nobody would guess from Maggie Steed's performance that Silvia is one of the great French classical roles.

From the start she opts for languid affectation and parody posturing and by the time she tries to inject a little depth and seriousness into the situation, it is too late. This is not, as it should be, a young woman in search of a more genuinely loving marriage than any she sees around her; rather, a bored socialite doing a bit of comic slumming.

Marivaux's not-so-snobbish conclusion, which is that the privileged should not be quite so committed to class conventions and the marriage market, goes for far less than it might. For most of the evening, farce rather than wit tends to rule. That is understandable in the scenes involving Caroline Quentin's doughty Lisette and Marcello Magni's spivvish chauffeur-in-disguise. Both are, after all, descendants of the clowns of Italian *commedia dell'arte*. Magni actually calls himself Harlequin from time to time. But even here there are opportunities for slyer humour than encounters in which he sexily nibbles her foot and she gooses him all the way to climax. For my taste, there is also too much frenetic rushing about and strenuously self-conscious fun.

Still, my taste is my taste, not that of everybody around me, some of whom laughed a lot last night. And there's no doubting the energy of the cast - a blend of Cambridge Arts, Gloria and National actors — or of Bartlett's colloquial translation. But why are they in 1920s costume, and why are they so often seen making up and brushing their hair at dressing tables beside Iain Dart's simple, blue-walled drawing room? All that does is italicise the obvious, that this is a play about role-playing. There are surely more rewarding matters to explore.



Out of step: Marcello Magni, Caroline Quentin, Peter Wingfield and Maggie Steed, drawn by Bill Hewson

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NEW MUSIC: **Richard Morrison** on the first of five successive evenings of musical discovery

Not all angst and blister

PLG Young Artists
Purcell Room

NEW year, new music, new faces: strange how such a celebration of novelty as the Park Lane Group's annual Young Artists week retains its distinctive flavour. Let 15 bright young talents loose for 45 minutes each, and it is perhaps inevitable that you end up with a series that mostly whizzes past at blistering speed or bashes you with angst at full volume.

Yet each recital usually contains one delicate gem. Cunningly, the pianist **Thomas Adès**, in Monday's early-evening slot, placed the delicacy first. Craftier still, it was a new piece by himself: a subtle exploration of the timbres of a prepared piano, entitled *Still Sorrowing*. For half of it, the lower notes were muted with plugs, producing crotale-like sounds which plopped pleasantly in contrast to the plangent upper register. Then the page-turner stood up and repositioned the plugs (a skilled manoeuvre in itself), to reverse the effect. Clever, but the thematic content needed more character to hold its own.

Adès gave us blisters and angst later. Messiaen's 1936 *Pièce pour le tombeau de Paul Dukas* made everybody sit up: barely five minutes long, it stamps out a monumental grandeur in rich chords and, finally, a blast of bass octaves from hell. Then it just stops, as if cut off from this mortal life. Would that Poul Ruders's Second Sonata had been cut off in its prime, because its prime — toccata patterns, madrigalian syncopations — was much more convincing than its dreary sarabande middle and pompously elongated ending.

In Monday's second recital, **Paul Watkins** — the young cellist who became a BBC Symphony principal at the age of 20 — set himself colossal tasks. First came Jonathan Harvey's Three Sketches: jolly weird, if not wonderful. Perhaps Professor Harvey was preparing a lecture at the time on "funny noises you can get from a virtuoso cellist".

A PLG commission, Philip Cashian's *Dancing with Venus*, followed. Based on Angela Carter's short story about Baudelaire's mistress posing lewdly for him, the piece had much furious writing mixed with quirky interludes. It certainly compelled attention, as presumably did Baudelaire's mistress. But Watkins and his estimable pianist, **Elizabeth Upchurch**, only really found music suitable to their prodigious talents with Elliott Carter's magnificent Cello Sonata of 1948. The central Adagio, in particular, was propelled with the highly-charged emotive force that other players reserve for Tchaikovsky.

Counterpointed with Watkins were sparky contributions from the **Cone Oboe Trio**. The sound of three oboes is not a joy forever. But these ladies are sweet-toned and tuneful, and their choice of music was delightful: James McMillan's gradually more flamboyant Intercession; the extended arabesques of Joseph Landers's *Echo Dances*; Edward McGuire's new *Remembrance*, with its melancholy refrain offsetting perkier passages, and a Trio from John Lunn that claims all sorts of African and American forbears, but impressed with fun rhymes and eccentric refrains.

RECITAL: **Hilary Finch** on a veteran Russian pianist who is at last receiving the acclaim she deserves

Babushka plays Bach

Tatyana Nikolaeva
Wigmore Hall

AT THE Proms, where she made her English concerto debut last summer, Tatyana Nikolaeva was everyone's favourite granny, the matriarch of grand piano Bach: now there is standing room only at the Wigmore Hall for her four recitals of Bach's 48 Preludes and Fugues.

Nikolaeva, the woman who at the age of 26 inspired Shostakovich to write his own piano cycle based on the 24 keys of Western musical notation, makes one feel that this is how Bach *ought* to be played. Hers is not a questioning Bach. Or rather, the questions have already been asked, and the answers, one feels, have been conclusively found.

The first eternal meditation on C major was *just that*: it seemed to hold within *it* all the colours of the entire cycle, just as an even, white light contains within itself the whole spectrum.

The fugue which followed the prelude explained this, as each fugue was to explain itself with sometimes almost didactic conviction. Except, that is, the one in C sharp minor. Here, wonderfully, Nikolaeva searched for its subject out of a mighty gap of silence, a chaos waiting for creation. Once that subject had taken shape, it tolled on until the final harmonic knot had been meticulously unpicked.

After the interval there was less a feeling of wondering what would be revealed next: more a sense of the inevitable, the already known, being satisfyingly unfolded. Nikolaeva made her audience taste the contrasting fresh green of E major after the pomp of E flat major, and to relish its assertiveness in a pugnacious fugue. Fears of the fingers' momentary frailties, Nikolaeva pealed out a penultimate F major, its trills building up a massive under-girding for the architectural bravado of its fugue. Those who fail to hear this week's concerts will be consoled to know that more of Nikolaeva's Bach is on its way to the Barbican in May.

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Outside the province of the artist

Have architects forgotten how sculpture can enhance the beauty of a building?

Marcus Binney weighs up the evidence

Sculpture and architecture were once inseparable. Think of Romanesque churches, Gothic cathedrals, Michelangelo and Bernini. Now the Heinz Gallery of the Royal Institute of British Architects takes up the theme with an exhibition on the "Alliance of Sculpture and Architecture".

The exhibition focuses on the creation 100 years ago of one of the most richly sculptural of all Victorian buildings, the remarkable but little-known Institute of Chartered Accountants, off Moorgate in the City of London. *The Times* in 1893 acclaimed it as "one of the most remarkable of modern English buildings". Two years later, Sir Reginald Blomfield, the architectural historian, judged it "the most successful combination of architecture and sculpture carried out in England this century".

> 'Modern buildings are obsessed with making every surface flush'

What startles those who find their way to Great Swan Alley is the frieze of high relief figures, celebrating every profession that could call on the chartered accountant, set immediately above the first floor windows. Promethean figures struggle to support the corner window, while exquisite winged caryatids spring from the ground floor columns.

The whole building is intensely sculptural in the sense of being vigorously modelled, with deep-set windows and two sets of columns imprisoned in square blocks of stone. John Belcher, the architect, wanted more "than the usual classical details" and advocated "real sculptors' work, after the manner of certain old Spanish buildings and Genoese palaces".

Recognising that "in this grinding mercenary age, when clients expect so much for their money, such an extravagance as sculpture seems out of the question", Belcher's first move was to persuade the institute to commission Hamo Thornycroft to "undertake the sculpture frieze for £3,000", a colossal sum that would otherwise have fallen victim to economies at a later stage. Sculptors, said Belcher three years later, should be involved at an early stage of design "to give expression to the purpose and object of the building".

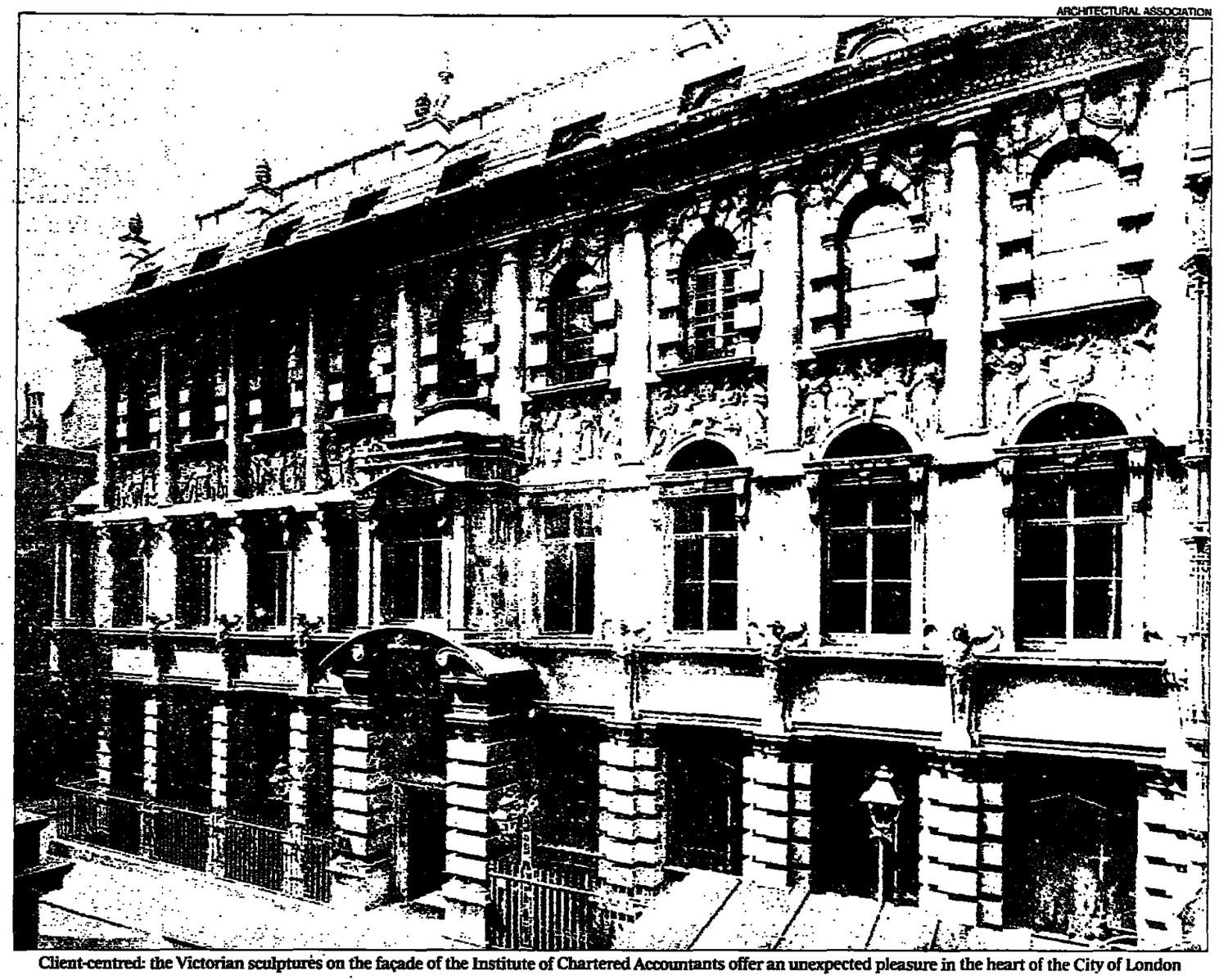
What do today's architects think of Belcher's message? The American James Wines, famous for his *trompe-l'oeil* supermarket façades that look as if they are peeling away, has classified the contemporary use of sculpture in three ways. First comes what he bluntly calls "the turd on the plaza", where the developer simply buys a free-standing sculpture by a famous name. Henry Moore was reluctant to let his outdoor work be used in this way. The difference in scale was too great.

Another approach is to weave the sculpture into the building, like Belcher or Eric Gill at the BBC. The third, increasingly evident, option is to make the building itself intensely sculptural. Its most forceful exponent is Frank Gehry in Los Angeles. He works closely with numerous artists and has a life-sized statue of himself as an American football player inside his front door. "Very good at putting off burglars," said a friend.

In Britain Will Alsop, whose work is strongly sculptural, brings in artists such as Bruce McLean and Gareth Jones at the conceptual stage of designing his buildings. His most futuristic proposals are those for Berlin's Potsdamerplatz, huge offices in the shape of torpedos and wind socks.

But sculpture on a building? "If I asked a sculptor to think of relief panels, it would not be a popular request. Serious artists would have problems. It's no longer part of the culture," says Alsop.

John Outram, whose visions of a modern Babylon won him a place alongside Sir Norman Foster and Nick Grimshaw at the Venice Biennale, believes that "decoration is the intellectual side of building. Yet Modernism, though it seems an intellectual style, dispenses with the most intellectual elements of all, painting and sculpture."



ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION

Client-centred: the Victorian sculptures on the façade of the Institute of Chartered Accountants offer an unexpected pleasure in the heart of the City of London

In the 18th century, he argues, anyone with a knowledge of the classics and the scriptures could read a building through its sculpture. Then the French Revolution, with its egalitarianism, produced the idea of an *architecture parlante* — buildings that would proclaim their purpose to everyone. But by 1900 Adolf Loos was contending that there was nothing left to say on so general a level and it was better to dispense with ornament altogether.

So what does Outram do? "I'm against bolting art onto buildings. But I've always wanted to do a sculpture that moved so slowly you did not notice until you turned away, like grandmother's footsteps. The 18th century was fascinated by automata; the modern robot is a direct descendant."

Demetri Porphyrios, the Greek architect who is the apostle of classicism in London, contends that sculpture should only be used in two ways: symbolically or to celebrate a junction such as the crown or end of a gable or pediment.

"Look at the motorcars of the 1920s. Every joint was celebrated by a fin or a decorative motif," he says. By contrast modern cars, and modern buildings, are often obsessed with concealing joints, in making every surface smooth and flush.

"Some architects go further and make a positive gap to expose any junction," he says. Arup Associates do precisely this in their latest buildings. Impressive concrete columns have startling gaps at the top just before they meet the lintel.

As well as a new quadrangle at Magdalen College Oxford, Porphyrios is currently working on one of the new buildings for Paternoster Square. At the appropriate moment he will call in a sculptor to celebrate the junctures — a finial, a spout or the top of a buttress.

As a contemporary parallel he cites the new Chicago public library where the architect Tom Beeby commissioned huge honeysuckle ornaments, two metres high, to crown the pediment.

Another leading architect who preferred to be unnamed explained one of the pitfalls of working with sculptors. On one project the client was keen to commission a particular sculptor with a centrepiece of the main front. "I met the sculptor and liked him. But I had to tell him there was no way the foundations could support so massive an object. He told me to redesign the building and immediately began suing everyone."

Terry Farrell prefers to design his own sculptural motifs. In Leeds he has done the master plan for the Quarry Hill site, the graveyard of a vast 1930s housing development. He has designed an owl (the city's symbol) for use on pavilions, seating and lighting.

The past 12 months have seen two major combinations of architecture and sculpture. First is the new fountain at the corner of Piccadilly Circus and Haymarket. The idea came from Peter Howard, senior partner of the architects Renton Howard. Prancing above the passer-by are the horses of Helios, the Sun God, with his daughters, the three Graces, skydiving from the top.

The sculptor Rudi Weller studied the horses at the Viennese riding school but found them "too obedient. My inspiration came from two Morgan stallions which reared up whenever they came near to each other." The heavyweight classical architecture of the refurbished Criterion Theatre, he says, "pointed me to a heroic solution. I like to imagine my sculpture in a setting before I start."

More recent still is a series of 15 narrative sculptures relating the history of architecture, by Kier Smith, set on the first floor of Henrietta House just north of London's Oxford Street. These are vigorously modelled and have the light-hearted wit of Gothic gargoyles. But they dress up an otherwise very banal building. All credit to the Public Art Development Trust and Lynton plc for commissioning them, but if architectural sculpture is to be seen as a means of putting a gloss on dull or bad buildings, suggesting the buildings themselves are works of art, we could be starting down a very dangerous road indeed.

● The Alliance of Sculpture and Architecture *is at the Royal Institute of British Architects Heinz Gallery, 21Portman Square, London W1 (071-580 5533), from tomorrow until Feb 20*

TELEVISION REVIEW: **Nigel Hawkes** on an ambitious survey of Britain's 'two cultures' mentality

Testing times at the lab



Making the fur fly: C.P. Snow, first observer of the two cultures

Like survivors of some vast and incomprehensible accident, Britain's scientists spend their time stumbling around and muttering to anybody who will listen that it wasn't their fault. This was supposed to be a country fit for men in white coats to live in. Instead it is declining into a post-industrial seventh age: sans eyes, sans teeth, sans everything. What became of the white heat? Where are they now, the high-tech dreams of yesteryear?

For three days this week, under the title **Culture Clash**, BBC 2 has attempted to unravel the mystery of what went wrong (the last programme goes out at 11.15pm tonight). Why did a nation with a flourishing engineering industry, an unrivalled reputation in science and a highly competent civil service fail so signally to capitalise on any of them? Let's name the guilty men.

So big is this subject and so difficult is it to apportion blame that with two programmes down and one to go, I confess to a growing frustration. The first film was a lightning dash through the two cultures; the second, an examination of why they have never achieved a productive blend. Neither, it seemed to me, came close to scoring a direct hit.

There used to be a scientific dining club in London (perhaps it still exists) called the Tots and Quots — *tot homines, quot sententiae*. Around its table, there were as many views expressed as there were members present.

That is all too often the case with science and public affairs, as the *Culture Clash* programmes soon discovered. C.P. Snow is conventionally seen as the novelist who wrote about the scientist-in-power, but I have always felt that the world of science policy has more in common with the works of Anthony Powell.

There is a large cast, all superficially plausible. The same characters sidle on, decade by decade, make their point, and sidle off again. They start as hopeful young researchers in search of a grant, and finish as grizzled government advisers in possession of a K. The most successful of all end up in the Lords, where there is nobody to gainsay them.

In this world, anybody's opinion is as valid as anybody else's. So *Culture Clash* paraded a bewildering series of people who said a variety of things, some wise, many foolish. Without a point of view to shape the material, the result was a confusing muddle.

One argument came through clearly: scientists in Britain form a cultural underclass. The educated man might once have felt himself incomplete if he knew no geology or natural history. Today, culture excludes science. It is possible to emblazon scientific ignorance on your escutcheon, and boast of it in public. To know nothing of physics, chemistry and astronomy is to declare yourself a person of discernment.

This separation of the cultures, identified by Snow in the late 1950s, has since deepened like a coastal shelf. *Culture Clash* identified a few optimists who claim to see, in scientific concepts like chaos or indeterminacy, a rapprochement between art and science, but I remain unpersuaded. It is far more likely, I'm afraid, that we shall continue to muddle along in mutual incomprehension.

Every attempt to broaden the educational curriculum, which might expose more children to an understanding of science, is opposed by the guardians of standards. Five subjects at A level, as the Higginson Committee recommended in June 1988, were seen not as an opportunity but a threat to standards, and firmly sat upon. The National Curriculum has promise, but we shall have to wait and see how many of its good intentions survive.

Culture Clash was a good idea, but the result was disappointing: nine for effort, but only four for results. A narrower canvas and a tighter focus might have brought more encouraging returns.

CONCERT REVIEW: William Alwyn's Fifth

More effective in concentrated form

LSO/Hickox
Barbican

Lest the praise I cautiously spooned rather than heaped the other day upon William Alwyn's Third Symphony might seem too mealy-mouthed, here is something else. His Fifth Symphony, "Hydriotaphia", composed in 1974 but still showing scant regard for the white heat of musical evolution that surrounded Alwyn during the two decades since he had written his Third Symphony, is something of a gem. Dedicated to the memory of the 17th century philosopher and scientist Sir Thomas Browne (after whose elegy on death it is named), the work has received the occasional performance in recent years, and deservedly so.

In the London Symphony Orchestra's concert on Sunday, which again pulled in a large audience on the strength (or otherwise) of Orff's *Carmina Burana*, the benefits of compression — one compound movement, 15 or so minutes' worth of music — became clear. Where the Third tries too hard to occupy an epic space and so loses its direction, here there is intensity, determination and purpose, and furthermore no room in which to overdo the climaxes. With the surest instincts, Alwyn brilliantly draws together a densely energetic, surging opening allegro, a beautifully orchestrated static slow section, a mere hint of a scherzo, and a final noble, dark funeral march, whose poignant dissonances resonate even at the last. Meanwhile, throughout the piece there runs a simple, three-note motto, the spark, as it were, of the human spirit.

Richard Hickox conducted a scintillating, touching reading from a responsive orchestra in excellent form. Earlier, he had stirred the soul in Elgar's ripest, most life-affirming tone-poem, *In the South, "Alassio"*, with a carefully shaped performance that combined discipline and passion in perfect proportion.

STEPHEN PETTITT

RADIO: **Derwent May** hears tales of Flopsy Bunnies and political animals

In praise of natural beauties

I think John Cole would sometimes have preferred to be writing a sonnet on Westminster Bridge, rather than talking about politics in front of Big Ben on television. Anyway, he is now combining his love for poetry and politics on the radio, in a new Tuesday morning series **John Cole in the Lakes** (Radio 4).

In the first programme he was at Grasmere — on the trail of Wordsworth, naturally, but also looking into the local power battles, which spring from Wordsworth in the long run. The poet came there for solitude and made it popular — and the provision of solitude is actually one of the statutory purposes of the National Park. But how to go on providing it when so many people want it?

Cole managed to elicit some interesting discussion. The chief guide at Dove Cottage in Grasmere clearly liked his visitors, even the schoolchildren who think that Wordsworth was the husband of Beatrix Potter. Indeed, the economy of the region now depends on its tourists. But curbs are already being introduced, by no means to everybody's liking: motorboats are likely to be banned on Windermere, and the spectre was raised in the programme of the authorities one day even having to control the inflow of holidaymakers. All a far cry from the days of Wordsworth's predecessor, Thomas Gray, for whom Grasmere was "a little unsuspected paradise".

Radio 3 boldly gave a slot on five evenings last week to a new translation by Desmond Costa of **Seneca's Letters**. The channel's coup was to get Paul Scofield to read them. Seneca's plays were, of course, a byword for tedium in the Renaissance; his letters, though much more admired and very influential in disseminating Stoic ideas, are also quite prosy and prolix.

However, Scofield's voice was wonderfully flexible and succeeded in drawing quite a lot of drama out of these epistles to Lucilius, a young procurator in Sicily. Now the tone was grave, now more energetically sarcastic, now almost youthfully excitable; and the various Romans whom Seneca mocked and parodied for their effete ways came in and out with their own distinctive voices.

What Seneca admired was sobriety and "naturalness", and the letters were primarily lessons in this Stoic version of morality. But pleasure and kindliness twinkled in them: he urged Lucilius to talk to his slaves at dinner, he encouraged him to expect death every day because then he would "rise each morning to a surplus of time", and he wonderfully evoked the lost golden age in which, he believed, all men had shared the fruits of nature equally and all were equally happy.

There was a very enjoyable play on Saturday night on Radio 4: **The Seven Per Cent Solution**, based on Nicholas Meyer's novel about Sherlock Holmes's meeting with Sigmund Freud. In Meyer's view Holmes's fears of Dr Moriarty were just paranoia resulting from cocaine addiction; and Holmes was lured to Vienna by the devoted Watson, where Freud cured him under hypnosis.

This first part of the play was really quite sad: Simon Callow as Holmes brought out a kind of fluting hysteria in his manner that was pathetically different from his usual dashing self-assurance. But Holmes's moment was to come. Freud suddenly found himself confronted by a mysterious woman patient whose troubles clearly owed as much to crime as to trauma — and the two masters, working in tandem, swept all before them as they saved the woman, and delayed the onset of the first world war into the bargain. Karl Johnson evoked a tough and dapper Freud, Ian Hogg was a very sympathetic Watson, and the adaptation of the book by Denny Martin Flynn was deft and lucid throughout.

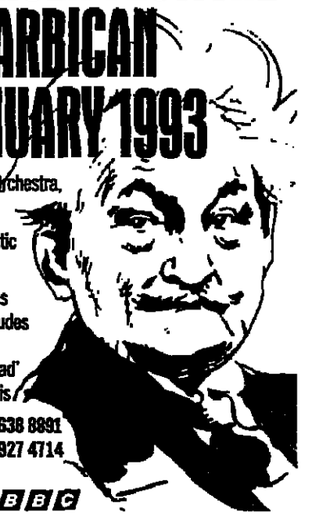
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Highly successful PR consultancy seeks a professional, personable and stylish PA. In this role you will be working alongside one of the key partners, helping co-ordinate his busy schedule, dealing with blue-chip clients in his absence and liaising at a very senior level. You will need to be meticulous in your work, have a confident personality and endless energy to succeed in this dynamic environment. Financial experience preferred.

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BANKING SECRETARY

West End based Investment Bank requires a bright Secretary to support a busy team of executives. Your days will be busy, hectic and lively as you liaise with clients, handle expenses and organise travel arrangements and diaries. You must have fast accurate typing skills and preferably spreadsheet experience, together with a calm and well organised approach to your work. This is an exciting opportunity for a confident and professional person who is in their mid 20s and keen to take on a varied and challenging role. Please call Victoria or Sarah on 071 225 1888.

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£16,000

Put your secretarial and administrative skills to the test! Top City law firm requires a secretary with team spirit and an eye for detail to join their constantly busy graduate recruitment team. Process applications, arrange interviews and keep a close eye on graduates' progress - just the tip of the iceberg in this pressurised role where frequent contact with candidates calls for excellent communication skills and a friendly nature. Personnel experience preferred. A level calibre, 60wpm typing. Age 23-32.

Please telephone Victoria Herrington on 071 377 9919 for further details.

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SLOUGH

PERSONNEL SECRETARY **EXC. PACKAGE**

Sedgwick Consulting Group, part of the Sedgwick Group, is a leader in the provision of employee benefit and financial consultancy services in the UK and throughout Europe.

We are looking for a Personnel Secretary to assist our Personnel Controller and Assistant Personnel Manager.

You will take responsibility for all administration procedures eg people joining and leaving the company whilst making good use of your excellent secretarial skills.

This is a demanding position; you will liaise at the highest levels throughout the organisation and demonstrate your strong communication skills. You should be educated to A level standard and possess a minimum of 80wpm shorthand, 60wpm audio, plus WP.

To apply, please telephone Josephine Morrison

0580 754400 to 7pm 0580 753027 Fax

Interviews to be held in Slough on 19/20th January 1993.

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES NON SMOKING OFFICE

Sedgwick Consulting Group

PA/Communications. c£17,000 + benefits

Top int'l company is looking for a confident, professional PA. Your brief will encompass client liason, diary and travel organisation. Fast, accurate wp (65 wpm). Applemac experience desirable. A levels essential. Age 25-35

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Contact Terry or Caroline

GRADUATE appointments
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INVESTMENT BANKING SECRETARY - MAYFAIR

Prestigious private investment banking firm with focus upon continental Europe requires a highly motivated secretary with language skills, preferably French, Italian or Spanish to work for one of its managing partners. An individual with German or another northern European language will, however, also be considered.
The firm consists of a small team of entrepreneurially oriented professionals and needs someone who is a good team player with strong organisational skills and 100/60 wpm + WP experience. Compensation is attractive and will be based upon individual's experience and skills. Experience in the investment banking/merchant banking industry will be an advantage.

Please contact Jennifer Adams on 071 409 2334.

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Top secretarial skills, bright personality needed to cope with demanding interesting position helping to run several small companies. £16,000 negotiable. Non-smoker please.

CV to Financial Management Ltd
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RECEPTIONIST - 25 hours per week

required for Scandinavian Stockbroking co in City. Based on reception you will also be assisting with general administration and knowledge of Word for Windows would be useful. You will be well presented, articulate and confident with a high level of patience and common sense. Hours to be arranged.

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This is a role which requires the ultimate secretarial skills (at least 100/70 wpm). Make this the pinnacle of your career, call me NOW on 071 240 0040 or fax your CV today on (071 240 1988)....

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A secretary who has worked at senior management level is required, with excellent communication and organisational skills, word processing (Wordperfect 5.1 preferably), audio and shorthand. As manager is frequently absent the secretary must be able to exercise diplomacy when dealing with enquiries from our director-level members and be able to work without constant supervision. Generous pay and benefits are offered.

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£14,500 WITH BENEFITS

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FRENCH SENIOR PA INVESTMENT BANKING to £20K + bonus

Assist Managing Partner in all aspects, liaising + organising. You will speak fluent French, have a knowl. of Italian &/or. Spanish. 3 yrs finance exp - pref. Age 24+.

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Fax: 071 494 4652

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You will need FLUENT business FRENCH and SPANISH, as well as English to mother-tongue standard. Some sales experience would be an advantage as would computer literacy.

Starting salary £15,300. Generous holidays, pension and profit sharing schemes. If you are 26+, well-spoken, well-organised yet flexible, have good keyboard skills and are happy to work in a non-smoking environment, we would like to hear from you. No agencies, please.

Send your CV to Liz Thornton, Canning,
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ADMIN/SEC/REC £12,000 - lovely opening for 'second-job-ber' sec with min 6 months' experience. Bright, dynamic, friendly environment. Centrally based in a busy, buzzy practice where you will organise travel, hotels, lunches etc & also handle team admin. Shorthand useful. Accurate typing (50 wpm) essential. Age 20-25. For details pls call 071-409 1232 The Work Shop

ADMIN/Secretary. £17-£19,000 + bonuses. You have the ability to develop a role handling recruitment, hospitality & secretarial work for this busy successful consulting Co based in Mayfair. Your warm, sparkling personality is just as essential as shorthand (80+) & a stable work record. Make your mark by calling 071 439 7001 Secretaries Plus rec cons

ADMINISTRATOR - W1 c£16,500+. Statutory nursing body requires a degree person for a one years' contract (possibility permanent). Must have 2 yrs experience servicing committees, lots of minute taking, excellent career opportunities. Tel Irene 071 258 3999.

A Dynamic PA - 20+ - Property appt £14K - Mayfair. Front line - meeting the public and handling clients in this well placed PA. Fast audio/wp and flexible attitude. Please call Masterlock Recruitment on 071-938-1718.

A Media Sec Kensington - £16K - Dept Editor requires a PA with exc shorthand, an awareness of world events and a vibrant outgoing personality! Age 20-30 - pls call Masterlock Recruitment on 071-938-1718.

APPLEMAC Sec/Administrator with good typing for busy young stimulating Co. Mostly Persuasion/Excel/Word. £14,000. Call Middleton Jeffers,Rec Ltd on 071 287 2044.

A successful international West End firm requires a graduate/'A' level PA/ Secretary for their Operations Director. Good spreadsheet experience is essential, shorthand preferable. Age 25-30. £15,000 + good bonuses + free lunches. Call 071 439 7001, Secretaries Plus rec cons

BANK balance! Improve yours by joining an international West End investment Bank where the offices and atmosphere are superb. Working for two dynamic executives you will organise complex travel itineraries, liaise with clients and provide full secretarial support. If you enjoy responsibility and enjoy using your initiative then we would like to hear from you. £23,000 package. Skills SC/60/WP. Age 25-35. Please call Samantha on 071-434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

BANKING Sec Package to £23,000. Our client requires a dynamic secretary with previous Financial Sector experience. Working under pressure and to deadlines, this responsible and demanding job will offer you challenges, variety and real career progression. Call 071-726 8491 Angela Mortimer (Rec Cons).

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EVENING WP Operator needed for top investment bank. Hours 4.00pm-12.00 midnight. Must live within easy commute of SW1 area, MS Word for Windows experience essential. Minimum 5 O' Levels. Salary: £17,000 plus full banking benefits. Please call Fiona on 071 437 6032, Hobstones Rec Cons.

EVENING WORK - We are looking for permanent WP operators to work for this large American Investment Bank. Hours are 5.30pm - 12.30am. Word for Windows, 60+wpm typ & min 5 O'levels are essential. Call Lucy at YWA (Rec Cons) 071 1588 for more details.

HARLEY St £16-£18,000. Practice Manager. Competent, sympathetic, loyal. Hardworking front person. Similar exp/ accounts/WP6.1 ess. Immed. start. Mrs Prosser 071 259 6999 Beauchamp Bureau.

INTELLIGENT and fun person with bags of common sense required urgently as secretary/p.a. to MD of small company in specialist security field in Fulham. Salary to approx £15,000. Tel 071 376 4091.

INTERIOR design Clapham-PA with good 90/60 skills and admin flair. Lots of scope for team player. Age 24-40. c£17,000. Call Middleton Jeffers Rec Ltd 071 287 2044.

£17,500 - leading management consultancy seeks high calibre PA to Principal and Consultant. Excellent organising skills, good eye for detail and fast, accurate typing (65 wpm) plus WP6.1 essential. 'A' level/Graduate education preferred. Experience in a professional environment useful. For further details about this excellent career position please call 071-493 5787 Gordon Yates Cons.

LEGAL Opportunity £15,000 ono. Legal dept. of int'l co in W1 requires a dedicated audio, WP sec (min 60+wpm). Challenging 1 to 1 role for their Group Solicitor including extensive telephone liaison. A mature and professional approach is an essential pre-requisite. Please call Lisa Glynn on 071 636 1493 Reuvers (rec cons).

£15,000 Young professional firm of City consultants need a bright, outgoing secretary who enjoys working as part of a busy team. In addition to providing full secretarial support, you will be producing presentation documents & course material for training purposes. This is a varied position which would suit someone who thrives when having to juggle several different tasks. Knowledge of graphics an advantage. Age: 22-30 Skills: 80/60 The Recruitment Company 071-831-1250.

YOUNG Receptionist needed for bright, modern offices in the City. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly, the job is varied. You will be answering the telephone, greeting visitors, booking conference rooms, ordering stationery and doing some basic typing (40 wpm). Age: 19-24. Salary £11-12,000. Please telephone Melody Hill on 071 377 9919, Hobstones Rec Cons.

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£18,000 - Legal Secretary for senior partner of international law firm. Legal experience essential + fast audio. Call 071 439 7001, Secretaries Plus - the secretarial consultants.

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MAYFAIR. Small firm of surveyors require experience town secretary. Audio & WordPerfect 5.1 essential. Apply in writing with CV stating current salary to A. Moore, Hearn & Partners, 4 Granville Street, WC1X 0DS

£16,000 MD's PA at City-based American drinks firm. Adv. WP6.1, S/H, min 2yrs MD/Director level exp. Languages a +. Gel Rec Cons 071 495 1712

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PERSONNEL MANAGER £25,000 circa + Car. Entertaining! Industry not Cash, or IPM Qual. 5 yrs + Generic personnel exp. Systems Orientated, computer literate. Recruitment + employee relations bias. CV to Stella Walker Handle Recruitment 493 1184. Fax 629 4297.

PUBLISHING Company in WC2 is looking for a Secretary to support its Editorial Director and also Senior Commissioning Editor. Shorthand and/or audio would be useful but not essential. Although secretarial content is substantial there is also the possibility to take on some duties of Editorial Assistant. Salary £11,000-£12,000 exc. at least 12 months previous permanent work experience necessary and rate likely to be mid 20's. Call Sue Doughty (Rec Con) 081 542 2989 to arrange lunch t/view to Piccadilly Office.

PUBLISHING SEC to Editorial Dir. Good WP typing (audio), spelling & education. Age 19+. £11,000. Call 071 629 8446 King & Taben Rec Cons.

£16,000 Secretary/Receptionist for small City-based financial company. An ideal opportunity for a young, flexible, outgoing person who enjoys using their excellent secretarial & communication skills. City exp+ience & knowledge of Word for Windows preferred. Age: 22-28. Skills: 50+ audio typing. The Recruitment Company 071-

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SMALL friendly firm of financial advisers looking for a reliable Assistant for the Director. Must be versatile, use initiative, good speeds WP etc. Variety of responsibilities. Age 24+. Salary £14K per annum a.o.e. Please call Camilla 071 730 6330.

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1st Job - £10,000. An international firm of management consultants based in lovely Mayfair offices need a bright, flexible and well spoken office junior, based in reception you will meet and greet clients to a smart appearance and a friendly approach are essential as is an excellent telephone manner. Additional responsibilities will include typing correspondence, updating the database and generally providing help around the office. 46 wpm typing and a good standard of education ('A' levels preferred). Age 17-22. For more information please call Chloe Gill on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

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ADVERTISING company based in lovely offices in W1 requires a confident, polished and articulate receptionist. Operating their busy switchboard your duties will include booking couriers, taxis, typing and creating a warm friendly atmosphere for clients and visitors. Age 21-27. Skills 50 wpm typing, and media background useful. Salary to £13,000. Please call Kelly on 071-437-6032. Hobstones Rec Cons.

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EXCELLENT personal secretary needed for private house in Gloucester Road for 6 months. c.12 hours per week over 3/4 days. Good audio typist + w.p (W.P.5.1) Cobbold & Davis Recruitment Ltd, 36 Bruton Place, W1. 071 493 7789.

£13,000 - Four days per week as secretary to a Manager within a well known Health Insurance Co. In addition to full secretarial support you will be dealing with telephone enquiries from prospective customers and monitoring sales. Age 20-35. Skills 55/WP/Audio eb useful. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071 437 6032. Hobstones Rec Cons.

KENSINGTON Ch. St W8. Part-time sec. to replace Sarah. To run chartered surveyor's busy private office. Gen. correspondence, short reports and admin. (WordPerfect and Windows). Mornings approx. 20 hrs/ week but flexible. Tel: Sarah Barden, Richard Birchall Associates 071-727-9739 (mornings).

PART-TIME Administrator/Sec. W1 five to days per week, with keyboard, PC Database, and medical knowledge ideally; suit a well motivated organiser with personality plus! Age 22-50. Good communication skills (literate & oral) salary c £8000pa. Call Middleton Jeffers Rec Ltd on 071-287 2044.

PART-TIME secretary required for busy small business in SW11. Tuesday & Thursday from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm. Aged under 35, word processing skills and a good telephone manner are essential. £7.50 per hour. Please tel 071-738 9891.

PR - Secretary for 2.5 days or 5 mornings a week for 2 prometers of major events. WP experience vital - 55 typing - (WP 5.1 ideally) & ability to handle a full, fascinating secretarial role. based W1. Call Maisie-Tucker on 071 734 7341.

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Dying for a green shoot

"There is renewed confidence among both buyers and sellers. The market has been virtually dead for two years and we thought it would continue like that well into this year, but we are now thinking we were wrong." (Peter Cliff, National Association of Estate Agents)

"There was further evidence of increased activity in the UK housing market . . . This should result in small rises in house prices by the second half of the year." (The Halifax Building Society)

The sophisticated reader will already realise that these are cuttings from newspapers of early last year. Estate agents, builders, lenders, analysts, and forecasters predicted that the housing market would pick up in 1992. So, lest we conveniently forget, did *The Times*.

The only analyst to forecast house price falls in January 1992 was John Wriglesworth of the brokers UBS Phillips & Drew. But even he predicted falls of only 2 per cent. To a guru, they were wrong.

The reality has become such a cliché it hardly needs describing: that prices fell by 7.8 per cent in 1992, according to the Halifax's house price index, or 8.4 per cent, according to the Nationwide's. The only respite was a brief price rise in April and May caused by a wave of post-election euphoria.

Now the pundits are at it again. No wonder their predictions sound familiar. Just after Christmas, the Halifax said recovery would come in the spring, with an expected 15 per cent rise in sales during 1993. This gentle improvement in transaction volumes would be followed within a few months by an upturn in house prices. Over the year, prices would remain stable or fall by up to 3 per cent.

"The UK housing market looks set for a sustained and significant recovery in 1993," a National Association of Estate Agents report says. Mr Wriglesworth predicts that average prices will fall by 5 per cent this year.

Why should we believe them? Their crystal balls proved flawed in 1992. Have we any more reason to believe their latest forecasts?

The analysts excuse their misreading of 1992 by blaming the failure of the economy to pick up as expected. Gary Marsh, the head of research at the Halifax, defends the experts' record by saying that forecasting models were based on a growth in gross domestic product predicted by the Treasury, among others. "Nobody thought there would be a fall of 1 per cent in GDP," he says. "Uncertainty about the election was followed by a small surge after the Tory victory, but the economy failed to recover at all. Nobody expected that."

The predicted recovery in consumer spending and fall in the savings ratio never materialised. "Now we can rationalise it, by blaming a lack of confidence and high indebtedness." Mr Marsh says. "Confidence in the economy has been low all year."

This year, however, things *are* different, as Mr Marsh points out. "We are more confident because of sterling's exit from the exchange-rate mechanism and its fall by 15 per cent, and the cut in interest rates."

> 'The market looks set for a sustained and significant recovery in 1993'

Lower interest rates mean that buying is once again cheaper than renting. Average mortgages in the South-East now take up only 25 per cent of earnings compared to more than 60 per cent three years ago. These two factors, Mr Marsh says, should give the economy a strong boost.

The accuracy of the forecasters' predictions for 1993 depends on how and when a pick-up in the economy feeds through to the housing market. A prediction about prices a year ahead depends on how quickly and strongly the economy picks up. A speedy recovery, and that could feed through to a strong second half of the year for the house prices; a weaker first six months of the year, and prices could remain down overall for the year.

But if you do not know when the economy will rally, how can you know how house prices will behave? Mr Marsh says that it is no longer sensible to give an exact forecast of prices a year hence because it is so difficult to predict the economy's mood. "It is too precise to give an exact forecast, because there are so many uncertainties," he adds. "But we do see a pattern of prices stabilising, then picking up."

The real problem is predicting a turning point. In the past, lenders and analysts happily, and accurately, predicted price rises. But turning points are more elusive and housing market statistics and comment can be misleading.

Housebuilders, for example, came under pressure from government ministers to talk up the housing market in an effort to boost consumer confidence before the Christmas period.

Ministers from the environment department, including it is believed, Sir George Young, the housing minister, and Robin Squire, the junior minister, made it plain to housebuilders that it is their role to boost confidence in the market. Roger Humber, director of the House Builder's Federation, said that ministers had conducted a charm offensive to drum up positive reaction to the Autumn Statement.

"We were asked to react positively, and so were other leaders of industry by other ministers," Mr Humber says. "It was an attempt to build the right pyschology into the nation — to be unofficial cheerleaders."

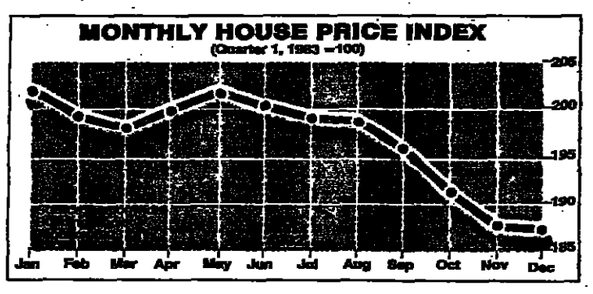
The house price indices produced by the Halifax and the Nationwide are also flawed: they reflect "average" house prices, but neither index reflects the higher proportion of expensive houses that are now financed with bank loans, as the indices are based on the lender's mortgage offers. Sample sizes are often tiny. Many sales — about 25 per cent — are through death and divorce, and are often without mortgages. Sometimes lenders have private forecasts, which they do not release to the public, that are more pessimistic than their public pronouncements.

The best advice is to ask your local estate agent what prices are doing in your region. Pundits are all less effective than the person on the spot. Even then, their view may be of limited value.

The only compensation is that it may not matter that much. No one believes that house prices will boom any more. The bonanza of the 1980s was a one-off.

When prices finally start to rise, they will do so steadily and in line with inflation. Gone are the days when you could make more money by listening to experts and waiting for their predictions of house price rises to come true.





SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS

Fresh horizons for small firms

Estate agents have now had four bad years and have just started what will probably be another. The National Association of Estate Agents estimates that up to a third of the 16,000 people employed in estate agencies four years ago have left.

Looking at the *AA Book of Estate Agents*, you will notice several species on the verge of extinction, while others are thriving in the fresh competitive environment.

The profession remains divided into the corporate sector and the independents. The corporate sector comprises agencies attached to building societies, insurance companies and banks, which accounts for 40 per cent of the residential property market. The rest is taken up by independent agencies.

The recession has struck at values and turnover. Residential property prices are down 30 per cent over the past four years and the number of transactions has fallen since the late 1980s by between 50 and 70 per cent.

As a result, the independents have suffered, but not as badly as the corporates. Most of the former have escaped by cutting staff and other rationalisations. Most stress that they have improved service and adjusted to the needs of clients.

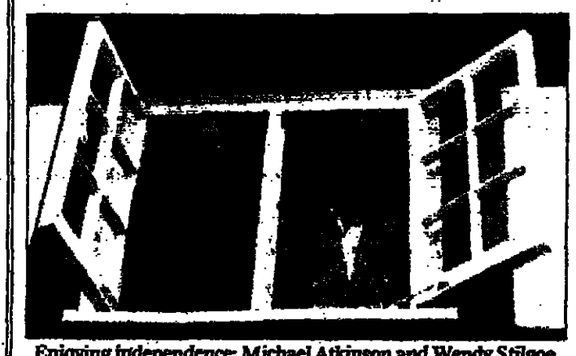
Some agents — mostly one-person, one-branch local operations which have risen from the ashes of the corporate sector via buy-outs — are experiencing a renaissance. A typical example is Atkinson Stilgoe, in the West Midlands. Michael Atkinson was a partner at Warwick Estates, which General Accident bought in 1987. At GA he met his partner, Wendy Stilgoe, who was area director. Once released from GA, they set up last August as an independent agency next door to GA.

"Business is far better than we predicted," Ms Stilgoe says. "The other agencies here are all corporations: Halifax, Shipways [part of Royal] and General Accident. Their staff have to sell financial services, mortgages and insurance, besides property. We offer a specialist service devoted to selling houses."

The rise of the bespoke local agent is good for the seller and the business. One lesson learnt from the corporate stampede into estate agency during the late 1980s is that large corporations sometimes suffer when it comes to offering service and local know-how.

With a growing independent sector, sellers can expect fees to rise from 1.25/1.5 per cent to 1.5/3 per cent. However, David Goldsworthy, president-elect of the National Association of Estate Agents, defends the profession. "It still offers the cheapest professional service in the country and is a lot cheaper than agents in the United States, where fees are 6 to 7 per cent, in France where they are 10 per cent and Spain, where fees are 15 per cent."

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Super-giant slalom victory points to another World Cup success for Luxembourg's one-man team

Girardelli sets his sights on fifth overall title

FROM DAVID POWELL IN ST ANTON

MARC Girardelli was never one for making up the numbers. He had a season of it last winter and did not like it. So, when it was over, he got down to work, trained and, now, as he illustrated beyond doubt in a World Cup super-giant slalom here yesterday, he is the best in the business again.

He won only one of his 35 races last season, turning a campaign that was supposed to have made him the first man to win five overall World Cup titles into a slog.

Nothing but injury can stop him this time, surely? His victory yesterday was his fourth of a season not yet at halfway.

Girardelli, still no veteran at 29, is 241 points clear of Alberto Tomba, who competes in only two of the five scoring disciplines, and 264 in front of Kjetil Andre Aamodt, the developing Norwegian who contests them all. You can write off the others.

As he came off the piste yesterday, Girardelli wore the cheery smile of the get-away-from-it-all mountain tourist. It had not been a record fifth World Cup that had motivated him but the desire simply to win races again.

"I didn't want to train for eight months to be finishing fifth or sixth," he said. "I thought that if I could not do better, it would be time to quit. But as long as I am in top form, I will continue."

His tactical brain served him well yesterday. He chose to go down as fifteenth seed, when he had the option to ski earlier, because he was not satisfied that he knew enough about the course.

"The information I got at the start was that everybody was making mistakes," Girardelli said. "So I decided to take a different line from the one that I had planned on inspection."

Girardelli does not have the support crew enjoyed by others. He is a one-man team from Luxembourg. Actually, not from Luxembourg at all. He was born in Austria but, at 13, was pulled out of the ski team by his father, Helmut, who did not get on with the national federation. Luxembourg became a flag of convenience.

Helmut was providing piste information for his son yesterday, helping Girardelli to join Pirmin Zurbriggen on 40 World Cup career wins. Only Ingemar Stenmark has more.

What did Girardelli think of that? "It would mean something if it had been my 87th," he said, which is what it will take to pass Stenmark's record. Girardelli will probably have to be satisfied with five World Cups.

He learned yesterday he will not be heading for Kitzbühel this weekend for scheduled downhill and slalom races. Owing to a shortage of snow in Kitzbühel, the downhill race will be held in St Anton on Saturday and the slalom in Lech on Sunday.

RESULTS: 1, M Girardelli (Lux), 1min 28.53secs; 2, J Thorsen (Nor), 1:29.32; 3, G Mader (Austria), 1:29.07; 4, A Skaardal (Nor), 1:29.36; 5, M Hangl (Switz), 1:29.52; 6, L Colturi (It), 1:29.65; 7, A Duvillard (Fr), 1:29.76; 8, L Alphand (Fr), 1:29.79; 9, R Salzgeber (Austria), 1:29.82; 10, S Eberharter (Austria), 1:29.95. World Cup: Overall: 1, Girardelli, 713pts; 2, A Tomba (It), 472; 3, K A Aamodt (Nor), 449; 4, F Heinzer (Switz), 336; 5, Thorsen, 329; 6, T Fogdoe (Swe), 285. Super-giant slalom: 1, Thorsen, 230; 2, A Assinger (Austria), 129; 3, Skaardal, 124.



On the turn: Girardelli, of Luxembourg, changes course during his winning super-giant slalom run in St Anton, Austria, yesterday

GOLF

Doyle does deal to raise fund

LAURA Davies and fellow members of the women's European Tour arrived in Malaysia for the KRP World Classic, the first tournament of the season, which starts tomorrow, to find that the expected prize-money of £150,000 had been halved (Patricia Davies writes).

"They were not entirely happy," Andrea Doyle, the Tour's executive director, said yesterday. "But after some hard work with the local organising committee, we've managed to raise the total to £100,000."

Doyle first realised all was not well a week ago and flew to Kuala Lumpur immediately to discover that the promoters had not come up with the promised money.

"We had an audience with a leading government figure," she said. "He contacted senior officials, who helped us secure local sponsorship. Although now at £100,000, the event is still one of the richest on our schedule."

It was a problem Doyle could have done without. The players, their hopes and profiles raised by Europe's success in the Solheim Cup last October, were already less than happy with a programme of 13 confirmed events, plus five possibles.

Starting the year by travelling halfway around the world to find their prize-money slashed will not have improved their humour.

Neither will the news that Doyle is still waiting to hear if the second event, scheduled for Buenos Aires at the end of next month, will go ahead.

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Mel Webb looks ahead to the longest and richest European golf tour, which tees off in Madeira tomorrow

Ryder Cup returns to fuel fires of ambition

THE REST of the population may still be preoccupied with January sales, pantomime dames and polishing off the last dish of Yuletide salted cashews. For the players of the PGA European Tour there can be no such diversions. The year is a mere two weeks old and already they are back at work.

The season that starts tomorrow with the Madeira Island Open will be the longest and most valuable in the Tour's history. It spans 39 Volvo Order of Merit tournaments, and four Tour-approved events, and will offer a total of £24.75 million in prize-money between now and December.

It represents an increase of just under 10.75 per cent compared with last year and provides further evidence that the European Tour remains a blue-chip investment area for prospective sponsors, even in these recessionary times.

Tournament golfers, hard-nosed professionals that they are, would probably play 72 holes on the central reservation of the M25 if the money was good enough. It is a small paradox, then, that the one event they all want to play in will not yield one of its 24 contestants a brass farthing. It is Ryder Cup year.

On those three days in late September, the eyes of the sporting world will be glued on a stretch of real estate in the heart of England that less than 20 years ago was little more than a large field and a gleam in an enterprising developer's eye.

That patch of farming land, not ten miles from the centre of Birmingham, is now one of the best-known courses in the world. Mention the name of The Belfry to golfers from Wentworth to Wagga-Wagga and they will say, a smile of recognition spreading fast: "Ryder Cup".

The Belfry has been good to Europe in their biennial confrontation with the United States. There it was that, in 1985, they took Samuel Ryder's golden trophy away from the Americans for the first time in 18 years.

They defended it successfully at Muirfield Village, Ohio, in 1987 and then it was back to The Belfry in 1989 for the tied match that was to keep the cup on the European sideboard for another two years.

This year, though, the scene will be set against a different backcloth. In the autumn of 1991, the United States won when Bernhard Langer missed a six-foot putt on the last green of the last match on the last day at Kiawah Island.

Thus, for the first time in eight years, Europe will be cast as challengers not holders. The likely result is, in the argot of the psephologists, too close, much too close, to call.

Europe will be captained for the second time by Bernard Gallacher, who took the job after paying his dues as Jacklin's assistant in the glory years of the Eighties. In his playing pomp a decade ago, the Scot was a battler who never gave up until the last putt had been sunk. His team will need to show some of the same fighting qualities if they are to succeed in September.

As before, the leading nine players in the order of merit on the cut-off date, which this year is the final day of the German Open at the end of August, will gain automatic selection, leaving Gallacher to make three wild card selections. The one difference is that, for the first time, the results of the last eight tournaments of last season are being counted to give a selection period of almost a year.



In 1991, Gallacher had to use up two of his personal choices to pick Nick Faldo and José Maria Olazábal, neither of whom had played enough golf in Europe to earn his way into the team. Gallacher will hope that he will not need to do something similar this time.

Ideally, he would like his best players to qualify as of right and, if the indomitable Faldo and, to a lesser extent, Olazábal, repeat the form they showed last season, he need have no worries.

Ian Woosnam, Langer and a rejuvenated Sandy Lyle can be pencilled in with some confidence, as can the consistent Colin Montgomerie. If Barry Lane, who has already totted up 219,458 Ryder Cup points after a solid start, an even better middle and a marvellous end to last season, continues in anything like the same vein this year, he could well be the first man to secure his place.

The immensely talented Per-Ulrik Johansson might beat Anders Forsbrand, his big-hitting compatriot, in the race to become the first Swede to make the team. David Feherty — if he manages to avoid snake bites and car crashes, both of which befell him last year — Ronan Rafferty, Steven Richardson, Mark Roe, Jamie Spence and David Gilford can all present cases for consideration. Mark James, too, although out of sorts last season, always produces his best in Ryder Cup years.

And then there is the curious and worrying case of Severiano Ballesteros, the greatest match-player of them all. He won twice in the first six weeks of last season but then went into decline and finished 28th in the money-list. He missed cuts, was nowhere in the major tournaments — he pulled out of the US PGA — and, ominously, seemed at times resigned to his fate.

Has the best been seen of the Spaniard? Ballesteros says not, Gallacher believes not; his inclusion in the team seems certain. His mere presence gives Europe a psychological advantage and it will be no different this year.

For the mortals, the Tour will offer financial rewards such as they have never seen. A total of 54 players earned more than £100,000 last season, many more will do so this time. The European Tour in the early Nineties is a land of silk and money.

Faldo, the Open champion, the man who led them all last year with earnings of more than £708,000 on his home Tour alone, will probably march triumphantly again across the fairways of Europe and beyond, his quest, as ever, for perfection.

He will doubtless get a little closer to his goal in 1993 and, relentless self-critic that he is, will be dissatisfied that he did not achieve more, no matter what he ends up winning. Of that, in a game that owes much of its unique charm to its glorious uncertainties, you can be sure. It should be quite a year.

EUROPE (GB and Ire unless stated; to Nov 2, 1992): 1, B Lane, 219,458pts; 2, A Lyle, 172,109; 3, B Langer (Ger), 154,944; 4, C Montgomerie, 150,267; 5, M-A Jiménez (Sp), 138,120; 6, N Faldo, 133,202; 7, J Spence, 132,670; 8, M Roe, 127,371; 9, S Richardson, 92,083; 10, R Karlsson (Swe), 88 512; 11, I Woosnam, 85,832; 12, A Forsbrand (Swe), 77,200; 13, D Feherty, 75,010; 14, D Clarke, 74,330; 15, M James, 73,422; 16, C O'Connor Jr, 69,866; 17, J Payne, 69,501; 18, J M Olazábal (Sp), 66,500; 19, J Rivero (Sp), 65,311; 20, R Rafferty, 56,241.
UNITED STATES (to Jan 10): 1, J Cook, 657.5; 2, F Couples, 635.5; 3, T Kite, 530.0; 4, D Love III, 520.0; 5, M O'Meara, 398.75; 6, C Pavin, 392.5; 7, J Sluman, 360.833; 8, P Azinger, 338.417; 9, B Faxon, 323.333; 10, D Forsman, 308.833; 11, R Floyd, 307.500; 12, J Gallagher Jr, 297.500; 13, S Pate, 280.893; 14, G Sauers, 255.0; 15, C Beck, 237.5; 16, L Janzen, 227.143; 17, B Lietzke, 222.5. 18, M Brooks, 220.893; 19, T Lehman, 219.296; 20, K Clearwater, 219.166.

Agassi is ruled out of action

Andre Agassi, the Wimbledon champion, yesterday withdrew from the Australian Open tennis championship because of bronchitis.

Agassi, who would have been playing in his first Open in Melbourne, had been suffering from a virus and bacterial infection that developed into bronchitis.

☐ Jeremy Bates, the Great Britain No. 1, was beaten 6-2, 6-1 by Kelly Evernden, of New Zealand, in the first round of the New Zealand Open in Wellington yesterday.

Brundle's move

Motor racing: Martin Brundle will join his fellow Englishman, Mark Blundell, as the second of two new drivers for Ligier, the French Formula One team, for the 1993 season, *L'Equipe*, the French sports newspaper, reported yesterday.

Cyril de Rouvre, the Ligier owner, is expected to confirm the pairing next week.

☐ Lombard, which ended its 18-year sponsorship of the *RAC Rally* last year, announced yesterday it will back the London to Sydney marathon rally for historic cars.

New young look

Bowls: England have called up four newcomers, all in their 20s, for the home international indoor series at Swansea from March 17 to 19.
ENGLAND: Rink 1: * P Butcher (Ogmore), D Holt (Blackpool Borough), M King (Fleetwood Park), A Allcock (Bentham). Rink 2: J Ottaway (Wynendham Park), R Gass (Cambois), G Burgess (Pontefract), J Bell (Cornton). Rink 3: H Duff (Thornaby), G Smith (Oyster), * G Harker (City of Ely), A Thomson (Orpington). Rink 4: * D Morgan (East Dorset), R Cutts (Ipswich), G Smyth (Paddington), S Halsall (Paddington). Rink 5: J Rochell (Ipswich), W Hubert (Bisley), * J Mills (Nottingham), D Ward (Roundwood). Rink 6: B Morley (Nottingham), M Bigos (Thamesmead), C Palmer (Shirley), P Bransfield (Shirley). Reserves: I Boyle (Richmond), B Jenkins (Cambridge City), N Jones (East Dorset), K King (City of Ely). * Newcomer

Blow for Woodhall

Boxing: Richie Woodhall, the Commonwealth middleweight champion, yesterday pulled out of his title defence against Daryl Flint, of Canada, in Wolverhampton on January 20 after a recurrence of an eye injury.

Free State take title

Cricket: Orange Free State won the Castle Cup, South Africa's first-class competition, for the first time when they completed a 114-run win over Western Province yesterday. Transvaal's hopes were ended when they were beaten by 49 runs by Natal.

Coaching plans

American football: Chuck Noll, former coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, will head a series of coaching clinics in Germany, Britain and Spain. The first clinic in Britain will be at Birmingham on February 10.

Boardman's team

Cycling: Chris Boardman, the Olympic pursuit champion, yesterday announced that Simon Lillistone, Paul Jennings, Peter Longbottom and Matthew Illingworth will ride with him in the North Wirral Velo team.

Regan's new job

Rugby league: Peter Regan, from Australia, was yesterday appointed coach of Rochdale Hornets, of the Stones Bitter Championship second division.

ICE SKATING

Bonaly sets the pace in her title defence

FROM MICHAEL COLEMAN IN HELSINKI

AN IMPISH girl from the Ukraine, who lost a lace a third of the way through her programme, almost stole the show when the European championships opened here yesterday. After being allowed to start again, Oksana Bayul, who is 16 next month, did so well that she ended up third of the 25 competing. Indeed, two of the nine judges placed her first.

Almost has to be the qualification however, for the day belonged to Surya Bonaly, the defending champion, who on this showing must capture her third title. Courageous as always, she picked the hardest combination jump, a triple lutz and double toe loop, and delivered it as cleanly as all of the other seven required elements.

Wearing a leopard-skin costume and using music with a jungle beat, the French 19-year-old captivated the audience and must have answered critics who profess to see two-footed skating and rough blade-work. Nobody trains or tries harder than Bonaly, a workaholic, who is an outstanding example to the rest.

On yesterday's performances there is little wrong with women's skating in Europe. Several of the competitors, for instance, offering triple jumps in combination. Their other moves were of a higher standard.

In this category were Krisztina Czako, of Hungary, and Zuzanna Szwed, of Poland, while the German, Tanja Szewczenko, still a junior, was effortless with her double axel and triple loop-double toe. She may well finish ahead of Marina Kielmann, the nominal German No. 1, who bravely holds second place, despite wearing a hand support after crashing in the qualifying competition.

Charlene von Saher, the one Briton left after Emma Warmington's elimination, was smooth as silk with her opening triple salchow and double toe but could not hold the double axel and landed turning forward, a costly mistake. With a sure layback spin, graceful spirals and a smooth closing double lutz she could have finished higher than 15th, had she but smiled.

RESULTS: Women's technical programme: 1, S Bonaly (Fr), 0.5pts; 2, M Kielmann (Ger), 1.0; 3, O Baiul (Ukr), 1.5; 4, T Szewczenko (Ger), 2.0; 5, M Butyrskaia (Rus), 2.5; 6, K Czako (Hun), 3.0. British: 15, C Von Saher, 7.5. E Warrington eliminated in pre-qualifying.

Women on track for equality in sport

Sally Jones previews the one-day workshop at Loughborough, where delegates are aiming to increase women's involvement in sport

SOME of the most influential figures in women's sport will gather at Loughborough University today for a one-day workshop, organised by the Sports Council. The 60 delegates, drawn from organisations ranging from the British Olympic Association (BOA) to the Women's Institute, will be seeking ways to increase women's involvement at all levels of sport.

A policy document, drafted after a year of consultation with scores of different interest groups, outlines six main aims. These include the provision of equal opportunities for women to participate in sport and the involvement of more women as administrators, coaches and journalists.

Anita White, the Sports Council's head of sports development, who has organised the workshop, admits there is a need for a change in attitudes.

"The Sports Council has done a thorough audit of the sporting opportunities available and found huge discrimination against women. Many golf clubs and bowling clubs, for example, bar women or restrict their participation enormously," White said.

"At many levels, women are being shut out and encouraged to think it isn't for them. These inequalities are built into our society from childhood. Take a look around any playground and the boys are dashing about kicking footballs and making a noise while the girls are tucked away in a corner playing hopscotch or skipping.

"Because of parental attitudes, many of the boys arrive at school more physically competent and adventurous than the girls and this sets the pattern for the rest of their lives. To change things, we must start at the beginning by making parents and playworkers aware of the need to encourage girls equally.

"It's sad, too, that particularly in working-class and ethnic communities, there's still a feeling that leisure and sporting activity is an all-male preserve and women are made to feel guilty if they try to negotiate a little recreation time for themselves.


White: need for change

"Some ethnic women also need special consideration — all-female swimming sessions for instance — because many would not swim if men could see them in their costumes.

The workshop will also address how to stamp out discrimination in the many mixed sports clubs, like golf and bowling, where women are forced to accept a minor role as a condition of entry, often deprived of voting rights and allowed to play only on selected weekdays.

White quotes with grim relish the remarks of Bob Young, the president of the Scottish Bowling Association: "If women stayed at home and concentrated on the washing and looking after the kids, there would be no problem," Young said. "I know times have changed but the situation in bowling clubs hasn't."

Many older women, who are already members, accept the status quo and will not rock the boat in case they are expelled from their clubs.

"What we should like to see is club members, men and women, being allowed to choose whether they want to pay a larger fee and have full membership or opt to pay less for associate membership. We, and most local authorities, already withhold grants from those that discriminate in this way but we also want the practice outlawed through new sex discrimination legislation."

A quarter of the delegates are men and the drive to change attitudes will require a joint effort to succeed.

"The day I'm really looking forward to is when there's no need for a workshop like this," White said.

Curtis adds award to his achievements

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

KEVIN Curtis was yesterday named the BT Yachtsman of the Year for his gold medal at the handicapped world sailing championship in Barcelona in 1992. Not only was it a fine personal achievement, it was a considerable boost for disabled sport.

Curtis received the award from the former prime minister, Sir Edward Heath, at a lunch in London yesterday, beating Lawrie Smith's Soling keelboat crew, who won the Olympic bronze medal at the Barcelona Olympic Games, Neil Holmes, the class III world powerboat champion, and Ian Pinnell, who won a succession of European and national dinghy championships last season.

Curtis, who was paralysed when he broke his back in an accident on his first day at work as an 18-year-old, learned to sail as a child when his father was stationed with the RAF in Cyprus. Like many who suffer permanent injury, he soon came to terms with his disability, viewing it as a challenge. After returning home from hospital, he was soon sailing with his father in a Mirror dinghy.

In 1980, he came across the Challenger car-toppable trimaran, which is specially designed for handicapped sailors, when it made its first appearance at a show close to his home in Ipswich. He was immediately attracted to the class, which he has dominated ever since, winning the national championship a record seven times.

Curtis, 32, who works as a departmental manager with an insurance group, also sails a Squib keelboat on the River Orwell close to his home.

Last year, Curtis and his crew, Chris Eaton, who has lost the use of his right arm, and Brian Clark, who has spina bifida, not only won the world championship but picked up a bronze medal in the match racing as well. Individually, Kevin also won the Scottish and National Challenger championships as well as the Irish disabled sailing regatta.

His next goal is a trial sail aboard James Hatfield's 60ft Whitbread entry, Dolphin, which also carries a handicapped crew. Hatfield, a former yachtsman of the year award winner himself, was at the lunch and offered Curtis a sail on his yacht in March.

JOHN MANNING


Trophy time: Sir Edward Heath rewards Curtis

Ski conditions

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fell
SWITZERLAND							
C Montana	10	200	good	open	cloudy	8C	12/12
(Thin, wet snow on lower slopes. Best on glacier)							
Davos	30	150	good	patchy	cloudy	4C	12/12
(Cold, dry snow on upper runs. All pistes open)							
St Moritz	60	110	good	open	overcast	0C	8/12
(Best snow on glacier. Dry cover on hard base)							
Verbier	20	250	fair	patchy	rain	5C	12/12
(Mont-Fort glacier closed due to winds. New snow at 2,000m)							
Wengen	10	50	fair	thin	cloudy	7C	12/12
(Best snow above mid-station. 21/23 lifts open)							
AUSTRIA							
Alpbach	10	50	poor	closed	sunny	4C	13/12
(Best snow on highest slopes. 16/21 lifts open)							
Bad Gastein	15	100	fair	closed	fair	5C	13/12
(Skiing above mid-station only. Snow softening by noon)							
Saalbach	25	70	fair	worn	clear	3C	12/12
(Artificial snow on lower runs. Hard packed on upper runs)							
FRANCE							
Chamonix	35	300	limited	open	windy	2C	12/1
(Fresh snow on upper pistes but closed due to strong winds)							
Courchevel	70	158	good	open	rain	4C	12/1
(All pistes groomed. Artificial snow on lower slopes)							
Isola 2000	20	50	compact	closed	sunny	9C	23/12
(Best above middle station. 17 lifts and pistes open)							
Megeve	5	130	fair	difficult	rain	5C	12/1
(Snowing above 2000m. Lower slopes patchy and wet)							
Tignes	118	350	good	open	rain	3C	12/1
(Snow falling on hard base above 1,600m. 55 pistes open)							
UNITED STATES							
Steamboat	130	150	good	open	cloudy	-1C	11/1
(Cold, dry snow at all levels. 19 lifts and 106 trails open)							
Winter Park	125	145	good	open	cloudy	-6C	11/1
(Up to 60cm of fresh snow in resort. 17 lifts open)							
ITALY							
C d'Ampezzo	20	110	compact	icy		6C	9/12
(Dry, compact snow above mid-station. All 40 lifts open)							
Livigno	45	200	good	icy	overcast	0C	12/12
(Icy on lower. 29 lifts and 80km of groomed pistes open)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline TEL: 071 823 1014

Answers from page 40

LESTE
(c) The east wind, adapted from the Portuguese word for the east wind. "This is a hot, dry, easterly wind occasionally encountered in Madeira and the Canary Islands at any season except summer. Essentially, it is an extension of the harmattan that blows across the Sahara and is accordingly hot and dry."

STROUHAL
(c) Strouhal number, a dimensionless number used in the study of the vibrations produced in a body by a fluid flowing past it, defined as vd/u or (u/vd) where u is the fluid velocity, v the frequency of the vibration and d the effective diameter of the body, eponym from Čenčk (or Vincent) Strouhal (1850-1922), Czech scientist.

PYROCERAM
(a) A proprietary term in the United States for a type of strong, heat-resistant glass that has been heat-treated so that it consists entirely of microscopic crystalline domains, from the Greek *pyro-* of fire + *keramos* of pottery.

SPIELRAUM
(b) The range of possibilities (orig. in probability theory) within which the probability of an outcome or likelihood of a hypothesis is to be assessed, from the German *spiel* play + *raum* room, J. von Kries *Die Principien der Wahrscheinlichkeitsrechnung*, 1886. "I propose to borrow from a theory of probability the concept of a spielraum. In connection with the judgments we make about freedom, this metaphor of a playing-space can be applied in three ways."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
Solution: white scythed through with 1 Ne8+! Rxe8 2 Rxd7 with decisive threats.

Sacramento Kings .... 13 17 .433 11 | 6, R Gensser (SWitz), 2m 1s.

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JANUARY 13 1993

IN BRIEF

Agassi is ruled out of action

Brundle's move

New young look

Blow for Woodhall

Free State take ti[illegible]

Coaching plans

Boardman's team

Reynolds's new job

REPORTS

Hills and Hern are fined as Doncaster dope enquiry closes

BARRY Hills was fined £400 and Dick Hern £200 yesterday as the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee completed its enquiry into the Doncaster dopings, nearly two-and-a-half years after the original incidents.

The penalties were imposed after both trainers were found to be in breach of Rule 53 following the positive samples taken from the well-beaten Doncaster horses, Bravefoot, trained by Hern, and Norwich, trained by Hills; and his stable companion Flying Diva, who ran at Yarmouth in September 1990.

The horses had been administered with the tranquiliser acetylpromazine but, despite a police investigation, the culprits were never caught.

The committee was unable to establish the source of the prohibited substance but, under Rule 53, the liability rests on the trainer to ensure that prohibited substances are not administered by anyone, whether connected to the trainer or not.

In a separate enquiry, Guy Harwood was fined £500 after his three-year-old Alizari failed a dope test.

A urine sample taken after the colt finished third in the Halogen Maiden Stakes at Warwick last July was found to contain the prohibited substance flunixin, contained in Finadyne, which had been administered on veterinary advice.

The Lambourn trainer Kim Bailey, fined £320 after declaring Pardon Me Mum for races at both Nottingham and Uttoxeter on December 19, had the penalty confirmed by the disciplinary committee yesterday.

The committee also confirmed total fines of £700 on Andrew Turnell, regarding double declarations.

His Around The Horn was engaged at Kempton and Wetherby on December 28, and another three horses — Star Of Italy, Sovereign Sound and Bowl Of Oats — at Windsor and Leicester on January 1.

Following the retirement of investigating officer Dennis Brown from the Jockey Club security department, the first woman has been appointed to the investigating team.

Yvonne Stapleton, recently secretary to the Lady Jockeys' Association, will join the security department on February 1 as an investigating officer.

Trotting takes step closer

TROTTING in Britain is set to come under Jockey Club control within the next month, it was announced yesterday.

A report recommending that the sport — known as harness racing — should become the responsibility of the Jockey Club and British Horseracing Board has been accepted by the stewards.

Legal steps will now be taken to finalise the arrangement which could result in the first meetings taking place towards the end of the year.

Trial races have already been staged on Lingfield's all-weather surface and a £16 million project is under way at Wolverhampton to bring trotting to the Midlands.

Reluctant hero fighting back from double blow

Alan Lee discovers Chris Grant in defiant mood despite uncertain future



Timely reunion: Grant and Blazing Walker, who is is due to return on Saturday after a long absence

Sporting heroes come no more reluctant than Chris Grant, and scarcely less likely. Yet, for all his reclusive ways and protestations of ordinariness, Grant has been as worthy as any of the accolade in the turbulent year just past.

Given the working man's conventional priorities of a good wife and a good boss, Grant lost the lot.

Within a few weeks he will never forget, his wife, Dawn, succumbed to cancer before, like a punch after the fight had been stopped, his friend and retaining trainer, Arthur Stephenson, also died.

If neither death was unexpected, the combination was still enough to have floored many. Not Grant. He submerged his distress and disorientation the only way he knows how, by getting back in the saddle and riding some of the most inspired winners of even his career as the jockeys' jockey.

Grant has never been a fashionable high-flier of the jumping game. At 36 years old, he now never will be. He lives in seclusion on the moors of county Durham, his lurcher dogs for company.

Like Stephenson, he shirks publicity and treats flattery with suspicion. "I am embarrassed by the image I seem to have," he grimaces. "I don't think I am any different from the next man in the weighing-room."

His reputation among his peers, however, tells unarguably of a special jockey, one whose strength, courage and persistence regularly persuade the most indifferent of horses to excel themselves.

Grant has spent years starving a frame which would naturally be two stone heavier. It has instilled in him a routine which many would consider monk-like. But there is no sense of self-deprivation.

"I never enjoy sitting in pubs because I don't drink at all," he explained. "Just don't like the stuff. If I went out it would be for a meal and I daren't do that. I would love to be able to eat properly but the diet is as strict as ever and I no longer worry about it."

He reasoned: "That's one reason why I will never start training. You need to entertain owners in that job. I am so used to not going out that it wouldn't appeal. Besides, people may be trying to retire me but I will go on riding as long as I am fit and getting work. What else would I do?"

Despite his bullish defiance of age and circumstances, Grant admits to an uncertain future. Most of the Stephenson horses will continue in training with Peter Cheesbrough until the end of this season. Beyond that, he has no clear idea where his employment lies.

"None of us connected with the yard really knows what will happen. I will just keep riding them so long as they are running. I had been first jockey to Arthur for five years and we were obviously close. He knew the job inside out and was hard but fair. Many did not find him easy but we suited each other."

Grant reflects soberly on his harrowing year. "It's been a bad time and I'm glad it is over. Nothing can ever be the same but I have to make plans and, as I could end up a freelance again next season, I have taken on Chris Pimlott as an agent."

After 20 years as a jockey, Grant is still waiting for the big prize he surely deserves. Second three times in the Grand National, and once in the Gold Cup, the bridesmaid role has sometimes seemed his destiny, but there is a horse in the old Stephenson yard which may yet alter that.

Blazing Walker is due to return to action on Saturday, at either Newcastle or Ascot, his first outing since trouncing a high-class field at Aintree in the spring of 1991.

The Cheltenham Gold Cup is his main objective.

Grant said: "I know he's been off a long time, and that must leave questions, but if he retains his ability, he could be something very special."

No-one in racing would begrudge Grant a share of glory at Cheltenham in March. But, if it doesn't happen, this delightfully genuine man will treat it with the stoicism he has needed in full measure through his dark days, and simply go on riding inimitably well.

SWIMMING

China challenged to disprove drug abuse allegations

By Craig Lord

A MEDICAL officer from Fina, the international swimming federation, and Bill Sweetenham, one of the world's most successful coaches, have challenged China to prove its women swimmers are not taking drugs.

The comments of David Gerrard, a doctor from New Zealand and member of Fina's medical committee, coincide with those of Prince Alexandre de Merode, president of the medical commission of the International Olympic Committee, who made reference to suspicions that surround Chinese performances at the Barcelona Olympics in an article for *News Olympics*, the official publication of the Belgian Olympic Committee.

At Barcelona, China won 54 medals, 16 of them gold and four of those in the pool. Dr Gerrard, speaking after the first two rounds of the World Cup in Shanghai and Peking, likened the fast development of Chinese swimming since the mid-Eighties, particularly among women, to that of the East Germans in the early Seventies.

Pointing to jutting jawlines, severe acne and increased muscle mass as evidence, Dr Gerrard said: "I see too many indications that the Chinese women are using something. The tell-tale signs of steroid and human growth hormone are there to see."

Using Lin Li, the Olympic champion at 200 metres medley, as his example, he added: "Her body is different from the Chinese population at large. But if they are not using drugs, China has to prove it to the rest of the world."

Sweetenham, the former head of the Australian swimming programme and now coach to Hong Kong, also questions China's fast development. He said: "The suspicion is so strong that the Chinese have to clear up the issue. The only way they'll do it is by letting independent drug testers into China."

However, Chinese swimmers, among them three Olympic champions and world record-holders, have tested negative at international competition and refuted any abuse of banned substances.

While Chinese men have made little headway in world swimming, the women have been a force since Klaus Rudolph, a former coach to the East German women's team, arrived in the mid-Eighties.

The East German connection has been made all the more poignant in Britain since the return of Sarah Hardcastle to swimming after a six-year break. Hardcastle, of Southend, was kept at No. 2 in the world in the mid-Eighties by Astrid Strauss, the former world champion at 800 metres freestyle. Strauss is serving an 18-month ban after having tested positive for abnormal levels of testosterone.

Hardcastle, 23, winner of silver and bronze medals at the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 1984, said yesterday that, when contemplating her comeback, she never believed drug taking would have been eradicated. "The methods just moved somewhere else," she said. "The greater the technology in catching people, the greater the deceiving. But it just makes you all the more determined to prove you can beat the cheats."



Kitted out: Hardcastle dons British team colours at the launch of the Speedo Europe package yesterday

British team benefits from £1m backing

By Craig Lord

SPEEDO Europe, which caused a stir at the Barcelona Olympic Games with its S2000 suit, has placed itself in the fast lane of sponsorship of swimming with a package worth more than £4 million for the continent over the next four years (Craig Lord writes). More than £1 million of that will support British projects, including backing of the national team until the Olympic Games of Atlanta in 1996.

The "kit and cash" support is the largest in Europe and is partly contained in a five-year contract with LEN, the European swimming league, that includes sponsorship of the European championships of 1995, in Vienna, and those to be held in 1997. The package will also provide equipment for the Speedo squad of national team members and financial support direct, for the first time, to the associations of England, Scotland and Wales and the Great Britain Federation.

Sarah Hardcastle and Mark Foster, two of the brightest prospects in British swimming, join Nick Gillingham, the European champion at 200 metres breaststroke, among others, in the Speedo squad of senior swimmers who will receive extra support, and they helped launch the £4 million package at the Broadgate club in the City of London yesterday.

Support also extends to developing talent. The Speedo support squad consists of ten younger swimmers and, for the first time, a diver, Hayley Allen, an Olympic finalist and European junior silver medal winner.

1993 SPEEDO SUPPORT SQUAD: Men: A Ayres (City of Swansea), P Bavister (Luton), J Hickman (Stockport Metro), A Ruckwood (City of Birmingham), G Smith (Stockport Metro). Women: H Allen (RTW Monson, diving), A Bennett (Nova Centurion), K Hope (City of Dundee), L Rogers (City of Bristol), S Rolph and J Park (both City of Newcastle)

Glover specialist to triumph

[redacted]

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

HIRAM B Birdbath, who was successful four times over hurdles last season on Southwell's Fibresand track, can make a triumphant return to the Nottinghamshire track today.

He can capture the Hamlet Handicap Hurdle in the care of the capable amateur rider Andrew Sansome.

Earlier this season, this Jeremy Glover-trained seven-year-old was also in good form over fences.

However, following a heavy fall at Sedgefield in November, Hiram B Birdbath now reverts to hurdles on his happy hunting ground in the belief that it will help to rebuild his confidence.

When he was at his peak Hiram B Birdbath achieved a rating of 114.

Now that he has dropped to 93 Glover believes that he is quite capable of winning again on the sand that he so clearly relishes. He also reckons that his rider's 7lb allowance will prove a crucial factor.

The obvious danger is Hard To Hold, who won by eight lengths over today's course and distance last Wednesday. In the circumstances, it is not surprising that his connections are going to the well again with only a 6lb penalty.

Have A Nightcap, who was beaten half-a-length by Northern Nation during that same programme, is now taken to go one better by landing the Macbeth Handicap Hurdle.

The fact that they finished ten lengths ahead of the third that day was a clear demonstration of their joint superiority. With only 10st 1lb to carry Have A Nightcap should be hard to beat now.

Today's card can begin with **Antiguan Flyer** winning the Tempest Juvenile Novices Hurdle.

A dual winner on the Flat last year for Barry Hills, Antiguan Flyer was sold to his present owner for 12,500 guineas in the autumn.

When he was runner-up to Landed Gentry on his hurdling debut at Leicester, Antiguan Flyer had Firefighter, another of today's runners, three lengths behind in third place.

In the meantime Antiguan Flyer has run sufficiently well in a handicap on today's surface — he was fifth when carrying 9st 10lb over two miles here at the end of last month — to suggest that he will be spot on now.

The task of landing my nap though is entrusted to Richard Dunwoody aboard **Andrews Minstrel** in the As You Like It National Hunt Novices' Hurdle.

A winner by eight lengths in heavy ground at Plumpton in November, Andrews Minstrel was then beaten by Giventime next time out at Lingfield.

Judged on the way that Giventime has returned to the Surrey track and won again in the meantime, that defeat was anything but a disgrace.

SOUTHWELL

MANDARIN	THUNDERER
1.00 Antiguan Flyer.	1.00 Silky Siren.
1.30 Cheeky Pot.	1.30 The Holy Golfer.
2.00 Solid.	2.00 Charlie's Darling.
2.30 Hiram B Birdbath.	2.30 HARD TO HOLD (nap).
3.00 ANDREWS MINSTREL (nap).	3.00 Andrews Minstrel.
3.30 Have A Nightcap.	3.30 Fiery Sun.

RICHARD EVANS: 1.30 Cheeky Pot. 3.00 In Deep Water. 3.30 FIERY SUN (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 HAVE A NIGHTCAP.

GOING: STANDARD — SIS

1.00 TEMPEST JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,484: 2m) (15 runners)

1 2 ANTIGUAN FLYER 16F (BF) (J Bostock) J Bostock 10-12 — S Smith Eccles 96
2 00 AUCTION KING 16 (D Tata) A Smith 10-12 — S Turner —
3 BROTHERLYAFFECTION 184F (Mrs R Hollinshead) R Hollinshead 10-12 — S Wynne (5) —
4 30 COSMIC FUTURE 5F (A Ali) S Woods 10-12 — A Carroll ⑩
5 COURT CIRCULAR 102F (B S Ltd) W Clay 10-12 — Diane Clay —
6 50 FERMAIN 33 (G Garter) A Barrow 10-12 — S Burrough 76
7 35 FIREFIGHTER 34 (J Mills) R Hollinshead 10-12 — Gary Lyons 95
8 00 LORD NEPTUNE 22F (B) (Mrs K Donnelly) J Jenkins 10-12 — R Dunwoody —
9 OUR MAN IN HAVANA 29F (S Herbert) Mrs A Swinbank 10-12 — M A Fitzgerald —
10 00 TANCRED GRANGE 7 (D Podman) B Preece 10-12 — D Tegg —
11 203 THE TITAN GHOST 26 (Mrs J Costley) S Coathup 10-12 — D J Moffatt (5) 87
12 0 YAAKUM 37 (S Whittle) J Banks 10-12 — S Keightley —
13 0 FAUSTINLUCE LADY 12 (D Deary) G Ham 10-7 — B Powell —
14 0 PAPER CLIP 25 (J Cresswell) J Cresswell 10-7 — T Eley (5) —
15 SILKY SIREN 100F (S Nixon) M Pipe 10-7 — P Scudamore —

BETTING: 2-1 Antiguan Flyer, 9-4 Silky Siren, 9-2 The Titan Ghost, 5-1 Cosmic Future, 10-1 others.

1992: MIZYAN 4-10-12 S Keightley (7-2) J Banks 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANTIGUAN FLYER 7l 2nd of 5 to Landed Gentry in Leicester (2m, heavy) novice hurdle with FIREFIGHTER (same terms) 3l 3rd. COSMIC FUTURE 15l 3rd of 8 to Be My Habitat in Ascot (2m 110yd, good to soft) novice hurdle on penultimate start. FIREFIGHTER 17¾l 5th of 14 to Her Honour in Haydock (2m, soft) novice hurdle with THE TITAN GHOST (same terms) 4¼l 7th. SILKY SIREN modest maiden on the Flat.
Selection: FIREFIGHTER

1.30 SHAKESPEARE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,484: 2m) (15 runners)

1 543P-0 PATSY'S PET 92 (M Rozenbroek) T Fairhurst 5-12-0 — Mr S Walker (7) 80
2 035640 CHARLYCIA 26 (Mrs V Robson) T Carr 5-11-11 — A Orkney 92
3 05/00 ANOTHER EARL 26 (M Ando) E Weymes 9-11-11 — J Callaghan 86
4 00-2051 CHEEKY POT 36 (V,S) (Miss L Davies) Denys Smith 5-11-9 — P Waggott (7) 95
5 0-08334 WEEKDAY CROSS 26 (M Fitzgerald) J Jenkins 5-11-9 — R Dunwoody 88
6 020244 DOLLY PRICES 27 (W Smith) W Smith 6-11-5 — A Larnach (5) 96
7 000P56 THE HOLY GOLFER 8 (BF) (W Dale) D Gandolfo 6-11-4 — A Maguire 90
8 684F BOYS ROCKS 37 (G Johnson) J Edwards 5-11-1 — M Williamson 80
9 5561 TIP IT IN 38 (S) (A Smith) A Smith 4-11-0 — S Turner 98
10 P/PPP SOLEMN MELODY 27F (B) (Avalon Surfacing Ltd) A Barrow 6-10-10 — S Burrough —
11 000 ACKERS WOOD 89 (D McCarthy) K Bailey 5-10-7 — A Carroll 90
12 5P/P080 TIME SLOT 18 (A Williams) J McConnochie 6-10-7 — S McNeill —
13 0/00-050 KEEP SHARP 26 (Hen & Co Insurance Brokers Ltd) Mrs S Smith 7-10-5 — M Dwyer 84
14 000P-P6 PROSPECT OF WHITBY 34F (B Gordon) P Pritchard 7-10-0 — A Webb —
15 30-06PP GLOSSY 12 (Ed Weetman Ltd) B McMahon 6-10-0 — T Wall ⑩

BETTING: 13-8 Cheeky Pot, 7-2 Tip It In, 4-1 Dolly Prices, 6-1 The Holy Golfer, 12-1 Boys Rocks, 14-1 others.

1992: PANDESSA 5-11-4 R Hodge (6-5 fav) Mrs G Reveley 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHEEKY POT beat Beaucadeau 6l in 11-runner Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, soft) novice handicap hurdle. DOLLY PRICES 8¼l 4th of 14 to Kidlaw in Kelso (2m 110yd, good to soft) novice hurdle. THE HOLY GOLFER 11½l 5th of 14 to Elite Reg in Doncaster (2m 110yd, good) novice handicap hurdle on penultimate start. TIP IT IN beat Lodey Range 2l in 11-runner Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft) selling handicap hurdle.
Selection: TIP IT IN

2.00 KING LEAR SELLING HURDLE (£1,704: 2m 4f) (14 runners)

1 43141/ STRAIGHT GOLD 942F (D,F,S) (T Hallett) T Hallett 8-11-13 — N Downs (7) —
2 4212-05 GREENHILLS PRIDE 43 (F,S) (Birlem Oils Ltd) J Jenkins 9-11-12 — R Dunwoody 86
3 3310-66 SILVER STRINGS 30 (C) (Mrs M Palling) B Palling 13-11-12 — R Greene (3) 98
4 0351P-3 SOLID 88 (C) (J McMahon) D Cosgrove 6-11-12 — D Walsh (5) 89
5 3R4-022 CHARLIE'S DARLING 7 (D) (Chiltern Hills Racing) J White 5-11-7 — B Clifford (3) ⑩
6 0U-40PD GINA'S CHOICE 85 (F) (Miss M Preece) P Pritchard 7-11-7 — A Webb —
7 034/PD CHAGHATAI 40 (Mrs M Robertson) W Clay 7-11-6 — J O'Hanlon (7) —
8 43PPPP DARE DAGO 7 (B) (D Emery) R Emery 9-11-6 — P Ward (7) —
9 F-40FP6 RALLYE STRIPE 42 (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 9-11-6 — Mr S Brisby —
10 00P SPIN 12 (G Barnes) D Burchell 7-11-6 — D J Burchell —
11 2U-P48 TOUCH 'N' PASS 36 (N Lowry) R O'Leary 5-11-6 — K Davies (7) —
12 0300-00 WILCOE BAY 7 (E Gobbi) B McMahon 8-11-6 — T Wall 86
13 PP0-5P0 CADFORD BALARINA 8 (V) (Midland Markets Ltd) Mrs P Joynes 6-11-1 Mr S Joynes (7) 73
14 0F645 URSHI-JADE 8 (R Mehta) K White 5-11-1 — V Slattery (5) 72

BETTING: 2-1 Greenhills Pride, 3-1 Charlie's Darling, 9-2 Solid, 6-1 Silver Strings, 10-1 Urshi-Jade, 14-1 others.

1992: PAY TO DREAM 4-10-0 D Bentley (7-2) R Weaver 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

GREENHILLS PRIDE has been chasing since finishing short-head 2nd of 6 to Olivers Hill in Worcester (2m 2f, good to firm) selling handicap hurdle on reappearance last season. SILVER STRINGS 11l 5th of 9 to Manhattan Boy in Plumpton (2m 1f, soft) conditionals selling handicap hurdle on reappearance. SOLID beat Old Peg 5l in 5-runner claiming novice hurdle here (AW, 2m) penultimate start last term. CHARLIE'S DARLING head 2nd of 15 to Debt of Honor in selling hurdle here (AW, 2m 6f) with DARE DAGO pulled up.
Selection: SOLID

2.30 HAMLET HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,005: 2m 4f) (14 runners)

1 33132F HIRAM B BIRDBATH 54 (B,CD,F,G) (S Astaire) J Glover 7-11-10 — Mr A Sansome (7) 98
2 42550-1 HARD TO HOLD 7 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs V Hambly) A Hambly 10-11-9 (6ex) — Mr A Hambly 95
3 35U-PP0 HOLT PLACE 7 (CD,F) (E Smith) N Smith 10-11-4 — P Leech 96
4 5151-40 MANDIKA 37 (G,S) (R Capon) M Jarvis 5-11-2 — R Campbell ⑩
5 8218P-0 LOCHERRE 7 (C,S) (Mrs D Baugh) B Baugh 9-10-13 — Gary Lyons 91
6 2-081P0 HIGH FINANCE 7 (CD,G) (D Johnson) R Weaver 8-10-12 — W Blythe (7) 87
7 33114F TEMPORALE 7 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs E Burke) K Burke 7-10-11 — R Supple 84
8 6/45-P0P BILLION MELODY 28 (F,G) (F Phillips) C Cowley 11-10-10 — Judy Davies (7) 90
9 26/1040 RAIN-N-SUN 16F (V,C,G) (Mrs M Bostock) J Harris 7-10-5 — J A Harris 89
10 8615-60 PLAYFUL JULIET 25 (C) (J Vickerstaff) B Cambidge 5-10-3 — Mr J Cambidge 87
11 01560-3 KOVALEVSKIA 22F (CD) (D Wilson) D Wilson 8-10-1 — A Maguire 95
12 P/SRUF-4 WARRIORS CODE 26 (CD) (D Todd) D Todd 10-10-0 — K Jones 90
13 33-000P TARMON 53 (F) (Dreamit Stevens Partnership) A Barrow 5-10-0 — S Burrough 88
14 2-P0004 BELPENEL 30 (V,G) (Mrs B Key) C Smith 7-10-0 — D Wilkinson 82

Long handicap: Warriors Code 9-12, Tarmon 9-7, Belpenel 9-5.

BETTING: 9-4 Hiram B Birdbath, 11-4 Hard To Hold, 4-1 Temporale, 13-2 High Finance, 10-1 Billion Melody, 12-1 Rain-N-Sun, 14-1 others.

1992: KING OF SHADOWS 5-11-5 Gary Lyons (2-1 fav) R Hollinshead 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

HIRAM B BIRDBATH head 2nd of 10 to Royal Saxon in Windsor (2m 5f, good) novice chase penultimate start. HARD TO HOLD beat Scarlet Express 8l in 15-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance with HOLT PLACE 31l 8th, LOCHERRE tailed off 13th and TEMPORALE behind when fell 4 out. MANDIKA 28l 4th of 5 to Abbot of Furness in Haydock (2m 6f, good to soft) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. HIGH FINANCE beat Amigos 2l in 12-runner Fakenham (2m 110yd, good) handicap hurdle in October. TEMPORALE beat Mrs Jawleyford 1½l in handicap hurdle here (2m 2f, good) in October. KOVALEVSKIA 12¼l 3rd of 12 to Mick's Tycoon in Folkestone (2m 6f, soft) selling handicap hurdle.
Selection: HARD TO HOLD

3.00 AS YOU LIKE IT NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£1,733: 2m 6f) (13 runners)

1 125P-12 ANDREWS MINSTREL 23 (BF,S) (Andrews Freight Ltd) J Jenkins 6-11-4 — R Dunwoody 90
2 BULLY PRINGLE (R Mathews) K White 8-10-12 — A O'Hagan —
3 00-0253 FLING IN SPRING 7 (H Porter) J McConnochie 7-10-12 — J Pallin (7) 80
4 0-4P00P GEN-TECH 11 (B) (Mistral Group Plc) A James 6-10-12 — R Bellamy —
5 9000/P-0 LOUIS FARRELL 12 (J Narduzzo) D Burchell 8-10-12 — Mr S Blackwell —
6 8P-UPPP RINKY DINKY DOO 26 (D Davies) C Cowley 7-10-12 — D Tegg —
7 63P-245 RIVER RED 12 (J Huckle) J Wells 7-10-12 — J Railton ⑩
8 PPP0F ROAD TO THE WEIR 11 (Mrs S Bramall) Mrs S Bramall 6-10-12 — Mr S Brisby —
9 655F20 WAYWARD EDWARD 26 (Mrs S Lamyman) Mrs S Lamyman 7-10-12 — D Telfer —
10 P-42223 IN DEEP WATER 7 (BF) (B Wilshire) D Wintle 6-10-7 — N Williamson 92
11 B/0P- PASTREL 249 (Mrs A Tomkinson) Mrs A Tomkinson 6-10-7 — P Midgley (5) —
12 004 PORTKNOCKIE 27 (S Mair) Mrs M Reveley 5-10-7 — R Hodge 82
13 3P-00 TOUCH OF ELEGANCE 8 (M Pipe) M Pipe 6-10-7 — T Dascombe (7) 80

BETTING: 4-5 Andrews Minstrel, 7-2 Portknockie, 11-2 Touch of Elegance, 13-2 In Deep Water, 8-1 others.

1992: MAN FROM MARS 6-10-13 B Clifford (15-8 fav) P Hobbs 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANDREWS MINSTREL 15l 2nd of 8 to Giventime in Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy) novice handicap hurdle. WAYWARD EDWARD 2l 2nd of 8 to I'm Fine in Catterick (2m, soft) amateur riders' novice hurdle. IN DEEP WATER 3¾l 3rd of 15 to Debt of Honour in seller over course and distance. PORTKNOCKIE 18l 4th of 15 to Catfish Boy in Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft) novice hurdle with ROAD TO THE WEIR tailed off 8th.
Selection: ANDREWS MINSTREL

3.30 MACBETH HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,796: 2m) (7 runners)

1 6-00025 FIERY SUN 7 (V,C,D,F) (Mrs M Dodgson) R Barr 8-12-0 — P Midgley (5) 87
2 P-2103P MRS JAWLEYFORD 36 (D,S) (C Smith) C Smith 5-11-4 — M Ranger 89
3 21435/0 ROPE 12 (CD,F) (N Blair) Miss F Walwyn 7-11-2 — B de Haan —
4 204364 ILEWIN 43 (D,F,G) (Midda Packaging Ltd) J Jenkins 6-10-13 — M Ahern —
5 P-45600 CAROMANDOO 12 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Healey) A Barrow 5-10-5 — S Burrough 98
6 015262 HAVE A NIGHTCAP 7 (G) (R Racecourses Ltd) J Harris 4-10-1 — D J Moffatt (5) ⑩
7 52-4508 AFRICAN SAFARI 46 (F) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 9-10-0 — D Towler (7) 80

BETTING: 2-1 Have A Nightcap, 2-1 Mrs Jawleyford, 5-1 Ilewin, 11-2 Fiery Sun, Rope, 16-1 others.

1992: SECRET SUMMIT 6-10-1 T Eley (10-1) A Forbes 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

FIERY SUN 5l 2nd of 13 to Persuasive in Catterick (2m, good) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. MRS JAWLEYFORD 23l 3rd of 10 to Seon in Hexham (2m, soft) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. ILEWIN 24l 3rd of 11 to Chelworth Raider in Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good) handicap hurdle in November. HAVE A NIGHTCAP ½l 2nd of 13 to Northern Nation in handicap hurdle over course and distance.
Selection: HAVE A NIGHTCAP (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wnrs	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Banks	3	7	42.9	A Orkney	5	11	45.5
J Glover	8	20	40.0	Diane Clay	3	7	42.9
M Pipe	22	63	34.9	P Scudamore	4	10	40.0
R Hollinshead	26	90	28.9	S Smith Eccles	15	44	34.1
R Weaver	11	56	19.6	R Campbell	5	19	26.3
B Preece	13	92	14.1	G Lyons	18	79	22.8

Muse is heavily backed

MUSE, the hurdler that has beaten Morley Street and Baydon Star this season, leapt up the Champion Hurdle betting yesterday.

The David Elsworth-trained gelding was backed with all the major firms in what William Hill described as a wholesale gamble.

Hills cut his odds to 10-1 from 25-1, with Ladbrokes and Corals offering 14-1.

Corals took almost 40 bets on the winner of Windsor's New Years Day Hurdle, who is owned by 100 members of White Horse Racing.

Tom Marshall, who runs the operation, said: "It's news both to me and David. The first I heard about it was when one of the members told me he had tried to back him but found the price had shortened."

James Fanshawe recorded his first jumping double yesterday at Leicester where Perfay and Fired Earth won at combined odds of 19-1.

But the Newmarket-based trainer, still upset by the loss of Royal Gait, stayed at home.

□ Kelso, scheduled for today, was abandoned yesterday because of snow. However, there is racing at Southwell.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Leicester

Going: good to soft (chases); soft (hurdles).

12.30 (2m) 1, PERFAY (G McCourt, 6-4 fav); 2, Vasiliev (W McFarland, 4-1); 3, Yimkin Bookra (M Richards, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Westholme (5th), 8 Hallo Mam, 9 Mirage Of Windsor (ur), Book Of Runes (4th), 16 Chandigarh, 20 Joli's Great, Taurian Princess, 25 Major Bush (6th), 33 Desert Splendour, 50 Queen's Favourite (pu), Ruth's Gamble, Always Away, 100 Lies Le Bucflow (pu), Coin Game (pu), Oh So Windy. 18 ran. 2l, 1½l, 1¾l, 4l, 4l. J Fanshawe at Newmarket. Tote: £3.40; £3.40, £1.90, £15.10. DF: £8.90. CSF: £9.67.

1.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, DON'T LIGHT UP (N Williamson, 7-1); 2, Greenwich Bambi (A Maguire, 7-4 fav); 3, Gabrielle Mia (T Jarvis, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Strath Royal, 13-2 Mardadi, Uluru, 12 Captain My Captain (4th), West Bay (6th), 20 Blushing Belle (pu), Kicking Bird (pu), 25 Legal Legacy (pu), 33 Barely Black, 50 Mr Mulkeen (pu), Balloo House (5th), 66 Silver Shilling (pu), Pewter Peta (pu), 100 Rough Cut (pu). 17 ran. NR: Doing The Double, Spartan Dream. 8l, 5l, 2l, 10l, 2l. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye. Tote: £9.70; £2.10, £1.50, £1.90. DF: £11.50. CSF: £21.34.

1.30 (2m 1f ch) 1, REJOINUS (R Garritty, 3-1); 2, Golden Fare (A Maguire, 11-2); 3, Baily Person (D Bridgwater, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Isaiyin, 5 Dont Tell The Wife (f), 12 Native Scot (5th), 14 Bobby Socks (ur), Pickstone (pu), Sandaig (4th), 16 Good Secul, 20 Trentside Valour (pu), 25 Earlham (pu), Spikey (pu), The Flying Footman (pu), Outfield (pu), 33 Battle Blaze, Ben (pu), Bruce's Castle (ur), Glass Castle (f), Singing Spear (6th). 20 ran. 15l, 20l, 4l, 4l, 15l. A Stringer at Thirsk. Tote: £4.40; £2.00, £1.30, £7.40. DF: £9.90. CSF: £23.20.

2.00 (3m ch) 1, MR SETASIDE (C Llewellyn, 10-1); 2, Pamber Priory (G Rowe, 10-1); 3, Merano (R Dunwoody, 6-11 fav). ALSO RAN: 9 Petty Bridge (6th), 10 Farm Week (5th), 12 Arctic Teal (4th), 20 Run To Form, Mister Hartigan, Admiral's Leap (pu), 25 Mister Ed, Mweenish (ur), Sir Noddy (pu), 33 Royal Cedar (pu), Pampering, D'Or's Gem (ur). 16 ran. 8l, 2½l, 2l, 3½l, 2l. J Mackie at Church Broughton. Tote: £14.90; £1.30, £4.90, £1.30. DF: £183.40. CSF: £107.98. Tricast: £150.85.

2.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, STARMINE (R Garritty, 66-1); 2, Thats The Business (A Maguire, 12-1); 3, James My Boy (A Orkney, 11-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-4 Antinous (5th), 7 Dunbrody Abbey (pu), 10 Ringmore, Our Survivor (pu), 14 Kameo Style (f), 16 Democratic Boy (6th), 20 Ballywilliam, Passo Al'ema (f), 33 Rymolbreese (f), Socks Downs (4th), 66 Beetee You (pu). 14 ran. NR: Expound, Enchanted Man, Clonmacogue. 10l, ½l, 5l, 10l, dist. J Parkes at Malton. Tote: no win dividend declared, winner unbacked: £19.90, £3.10, £2.40. DF: £483.10. CSF: £700.26.

3.00 (2m hdle) 1, FIRED EARTH (S Smith Eccles, 7-1); 2, Katy's Lad (W McFarland, 12-1); 3, Russinsky (R J Beggan, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Martrajan, 11-4 Easter Baby (pu), 7-2 King Of Zurich (5th), 8 Leeswood (pu), 12 Highland Air (pu), Studford, 14 Island Jewel (4th), 16 Quietly Impressive, 20 Gordon Pasha, 25 In Truth (6th), 33 Nasty Boss (f), Snappy's Boy Josh (pu), Trendy Auctioneer. 16 ran. NR: Al-Torfanan. 8l, 20l, 3½l, 2½l, 2½l. J Fanshawe at Newmarket. Tote: £10.20; £5.70, £3.10, £4.20. DF: £74.10. CSF: £107.31.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, SUPER RITCHART (R Greene, 9-4; Thunderer's nap); 2, Fierce (R Dunwoody, 15-8 fav); 3, Child Of The Mist (B Clifford, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 Ratify (4th), 5 Babyldity (5th). 5 ran. 12l, 15l, 7l, 8l. B Palling at Cowbridge. Tote: £3.90; £1.60, £1.80. DF: £3.90. CSF: £7.24.

Placepot: £757.50.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

1.20 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Shimmering Scarlet (B Powell, 6-1); 2, Fly For Gold (13-8 fav); 3, Polly's Lass (20-1). 10 ran. 20l, 10l. R Buckler. Tote: £2.70; £1.00, £2.30, £6.00. DF: £7.50. CSF: £14.91. Tricast: £161.21.

1.50 (2m hdle) 1, Falcon Flight (D Gallagher, 2-1 fav); 2, Mister Lawson (12-1); 3, Windsor Highness (8-1). 16 ran. 4l, 10l. R Simpson. Tote: £2.50; £1.90, £4.10, £1.50. DF: £35.00. CSF: £26.12.

2.20 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Keen Vision (Peter Hobbs, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Northern Village (4-1); 3, Sing The Blues (25-1). Rarfy's Dream 5-2 jt-fav. 10 ran. NR: South Sands. 1l, 3l. D Arbuthnot. Tote: £3.60; £1.60, £1.90, £3.90. DF: £11.50. CSF: £12.59. Tricast: £184.49.

2.50 (2m flat) 1, The Mine Captain (R Farrant, 5-1); 2, Harry The Cab (5-1); 3, Hall End Lady (16-1). Tax The Devil 2-1 fav. 11 ran. ¾l, 25l. F O'Mahony. Tote: £4.10; £2.00, £1.60, £2.80. DF: £36.40. CSF: £31.58.

3.20 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Alcoy (A Bates, 8-1); 2, Crown Baladee (5-1); 3, Sakil (16-1). Al Haal 2-1 fav. 10 ran. 2½l, 12l. P Kelleway. Tote: £9.30; £2.40, £1.20, £4.30. DF: £75.70. CSF: £46.39.

3.50 (3m hdle) 1, Cartax (M Hoad, 8-1); 2, Raba Riba (16-1); 3, Master Dancer (3-1 fav). 13 ran. NR: Champagne Run. Nk, 7l. R Hoad. Tote: £13.00; £3.40, £2.60, £1.90. DF: £135.60. CSF: £113.89. Tricast: £429.32. Placepot: £2,025.10.

□ Starmine's victory in the Dove Claiming Chase at Leicester yesterday resulted in all win money staked with the Tote being refunded. The John Parkes-trained 66-1 shot failed to attract a single totalisator bet to be first past the post.

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Sorcerer's apprentice out to master the black arts

David Miller meets Ian McGeechan, coach of Scotland and the British Isles, and finds a visionary whose quiet demeanour belies the competitive fire burning fiercely within

"COACH? What coach? The only one we had for my first game for Yorkshire in 1966 was the one that took us north to Melrose for the game, and we had a bit of a talk on the way."

Ian McGeechan sits in a small office within a large Presbyterian-looking building on one corner of St Andrew's Square in Edinburgh, his walls covered with development charts for the training of life insurance salesmen. McGeechan is a visionary, one of a handful of men who have led rugby union into a new era. Yet paradoxically, he and others such as Geoff Cooke, of England, and Bob Dwyer, of Australia, are almost too good at their job.

Rugby union is almost unrecognisable in its proficiency and application from the amateurish sport of 20 or more years ago. When I joined *The Times* in 1956, the England selectors would engage in scrummage practice with the eight on a Friday afternoon — still in City pinstripes and braces!

Yet, by the most frustrating of ironies, the game has progressed beyond its own somewhat specialised supporters' capacity to sustain financially the level of application that the players have brought to senior rugby. The quiet, undemonstrative McGeechan has, indeed, become something of a sorcerer's apprentice.

In other words, in all but two small nations where the game is *the* national sport — New Zealand and South Africa — rugby union has become such a physical art, so technically refined yet so elevated at international level above the average performer and spectator, that it carries, like the age of the dinosaur, the potential for extinction-by-excellence.

Even with sponsorship, for how long can all but New Zealand and South Africa maintain the professional attitude in a three-month international season, that the game now requires, without proper professional reward; indeed, in Scotland and Ireland, without the *possibility* of professional reward?

"In Scotland, we couldn't become more professional because we don't have the population to support a professional game," McGeechan said. "We have only 12,000 players in a population of five million. Our strength, like Jack Charlton's with the Irish Republic football team, is that because we are small we are more easily united.

"Look at the situation in rugby league in England. Many of the clubs are losing money, and I doubt if rugby union in Britain could ever support professional playing staffs. I think trust funds will come, to achieve the optimum for the players and the game internationally, but the difficulty is that once you have started down this road there is no way back."

> *'Going on tour can destroy some people with its emotional pressures so, in selection, you are looking at character as well as ability'*

Part of the problem, McGeechan suggests, is that the World Cup is being unsatisfactorily run by a commercial company, instead of by the "game", the International Board. A further, coincidental imponderable is just how far the "rewards" now available will damage rugby league by drying up the stream of players to its material opportunities.

McGeechan acknowledges the threat to the eminence Scotland have enjoyed for ten years unless he, or a successor, is constantly renewing their tactical approach. With video recordings, any team's tactical ploys are available for study. "You cannot even keep the same system for one season," McGeechan said, "yet you only have limited time for training."

The turning point for him came with the all-conquering All Blacks' tour of 1967, under the guidance of Fred Allen, coach and former stand-off half. The North knew nothing of structured second-phase play, and the All Blacks made McGeechan — to play for the British Isles on the tours of 1974 to South Africa ("good") and 1977 to New Zealand ("bad") — realise the extent of players' responsibilities.

"In Britain, we needed to relate the forwards and the backs", McGeechan recalled. "Until the Sixties, the forwards won the ball, gave it to the backs, who ran until there was a lineout or scrum and it all started again. With the '67 All Blacks, MacRae, a big centre, deliberately ran to be tackled, to allow his forwards to win the ball again and start a second attack against disorganised defenders.

"Now, play is totally integrated. Then, you could have a prop who never handled the ball. Yet by the late Sixties-early Seventies, the All Blacks' back row were the superstars, and from there we have progressed further still to the high-profile World Cup players. This in turn, the World Cup, has helped develop lesser countries, Canada, Italy, Japan, knowing that if they qualify, they're in there with the big teams."

MIKE WILKINSON



High ideals: McGeechan considers the future from a lofty perch in Edinburgh

The development of coach and game simultaneously has put as much pressure on coaches as players. McGeechan, a schoolmaster, had to change jobs to remain coach of Scotland, the situation having reached the point in 1990-1 where he had to take three months off work without pay to supervise their five nations' championship programme. At that point, Scottish Life offered to sponsor him, subsequently employing him as a training officer, so he is at full stretch fulfilling two serious jobs.

Inevitably, one facet of a coach's intelligence — as in all professionalised games — is directed at stopping the other team from utilising its skills. "You know you can make life difficult," McGeechan reflected, remembering how Scotland scuppered England's grand slam hopes at Murrayfield three seasons ago and tried to do the same without success in the World Cup semi-final.

This week McGeechan hopes Scotland can begin well with a changed team against Ireland; knowing that luck and time are needed to integrate new caps such as Stark (wing), Sharp (prop), Reed (lock) and Morrison (flanker), knowing too that the second-phase play in the trial was poor and the pack's loose play inferior to their scrummaging.

McGeechan, one of six selectors, promises that for this year's Lions tour to New Zealand there will be no geographical "balancing" of the team. "We're going there to win, and you can't do that if you compromise on selection," he said. "Going on tour can destroy some people with its emotional pressures, so in selection you are looking at character as well as ability."

It is possible, he admitted, that the squad could have no representative from one of the four home unions, so rigorous will be the terms of reference. The New Zealanders can expect the most hardened British Lions side they have ever encountered.

Charlton prepare for biggest game since return to The Valley

Rioch confident of causing FA Cup upset at Anfield

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

WILL the Liverpool players be allowed to drink their half-time tea in peace during the FA Cup third-round replay against Bolton Wanderers at Anfield tonight? Ten days ago, at Burnden Park, their interval refreshments were splashed around the away dressing room after the second division side had opened up a 2-0 lead and Graeme Souness vented his anger on the teacups.

The Liverpool manager's outburst had the desired effect and his players rallied to earn a 2-2 draw, prompting the rematch at Anfield. Indifferent Premier League results and some costly transfer market mistakes have marked Souness out for much criticism of late.

By contrast, the credibility of Bruce Rioch, the Bolton manager, is high after guiding Wanderers into the thick of the promotion race in the second division thanks to a 15-match unbeaten run, which ended last Saturday with a 3-1 defeat at West Bromwich Albion. "And people said that was the best game they had seen this season," Rioch said.

Like Souness, Rioch prides himself on producing attractive teams and, at Bolton, the process has involved him throwing the odd teacup in his time. The similarities do not end there. Once creative, if clattering, Scottish international midfield players, the two managers were both members of Scotland's ill-fated 1978 World Cup squad.

More than 20 years on, their hopes of winning a fourth-round trip to Wolverhampton Wanderers may rest on their forwards' shoulders. Souness needs Ian Rush, the man he describes as "the best goalscorer in the world", to pass a fitness test while Rioch's best hope of a victory could come from the feet of Andy Walker. Once of Celtic, Walker has scored 17 times this season and is a transfer target of Tottenham Hotspur.

Bolton are the second division's leading scorers and Rioch said: "John McGinlay [signed from Millwall] and David Lee [a winger bought from Southampton] are also playing well up front. Confidence and morale are high, the atmosphere in the town is terrific. We were getting crowds of 3,500 at the start of the season but 8,500 Bolton supporters are going to Anfield."

Rioch took Middlesbrough from the third to the first division and, now managed by Lennie Lawrence, they are also involved in the FA Cup tonight. Chelsea are the visitors for a delayed third-round tie at Ayresome Park, with Nottingham Forest awaiting the winners in the fourth round.

After a Coca-Cola Cup defeat to Crystal Palace and last Saturday's 4-2 Premier League beating by Manchester City, Ian Porterfield, the Chelsea manager, said: "All our eggs are in one cup basket. We must win at Middlesbrough."

Winning away is something Leeds United have not done domestically this season but they will hope to do so at Charlton Athletic in a third-round replay tonight. It is the biggest game staged by the first division club since their return to The Valley last month. A visit to Arsenal is the prize for the victors.

Peter Ndlovu, Coventry City's Zimbabwe international, reported for training yesterday in time for the club's FA Cup visit to Norwich City. Ndlovu, who returned to England after playing for Zimbabwe at the weekend, is certain to be named in the squad.

☐ David Beasant, the former England goalkeeper, has joined Wolverhampton Wanderers on a month's loan from Chelsea.

Scottish ballot in balance

THE winners and losers in Scottish football's long-running power struggle should become apparent tomorrow when every member club will vote in a secret ballot to either accept or reject the League's proposals to transform the game north of the border (Louise Taylor writes).

Should the League fail to command a two-thirds majority in favour of its reforms, the balance of power will shift firmly in the direction of the clubs backing a proposed new Scottish Super League.

Six days ago, the Scottish League was confident of victory after Celtic deserted their Super League partners but events took an unexpected twist when Dundee announced their defection to the rebels on Tuesday.

The League hopes to establish three divisions, with 14 clubs in the premier division (there are 12 at present) and 12 each in the first and second. The Super League supporters want an autonomous division of ten clubs, run similarly to the English Premier League.

To make itself more attractive, the League has come up with an original, if artificial, plan. After 26 games the 14-club premier division would be divided in two. Group A would consist of the leading six teams, who would revert to zero points and spend the remainder of the season contesting the championship.

The other eight would carry their points total forward and spend the rest of the season attempting to avoid one of two relegation places. To create added incentive, the Scottish League hopes Uefa will agree to the team finishing top of Group B earning a Uefa Cup place. That seems unlikely.

The new system would be implemented at the start of the 1994-5 season, although a consitutional rule change could bring it forward.

That is if it ever happens because Rangers, Aberdeen, Dundee, Dundee United, Heart of Midlothian, Hibernian, Motherwell, Partick Thistle, St Johnstone and Dunfermline have voiced a preference for the Super League.

The Super League's principal stumbling block is that, unlike in England, the Scottish Football Association has not, as yet, given its blessing.

As if political turmoil was not enough, the Scottish League is faced with a fixture backlog after the entire mid-week programme was wiped out by inclement weather.



Off the boil: Wright has been hit by self-doubt

Wright unable to put convincing case for his defence

BY IAN ROSS

THE suggestion that Mark Wright might soon be joining Tottenham Hotspur from Liverpool begs the question: where did he go wrong at Anfield? The central defender who led Liverpool to the FA Cup last season has reached the crossroads: a wrong turn now might lead down a one-way street.

Since his £2.2 million transfer from Derby County 18 months ago, things have not gone according to plan for Wright, 29. He is now a footballer in limbo, a man whose sense of anxiety must grow every time a Liverpool senior side is posted.

As the captain of Liverpool, Wright lifted the FA Cup last season; this year he has been unable to hold on to a regular first-team place.

When England reached the semi-finals of the World Cup in 1990, Wright was one of the outstanding figures. Now he cannot even get in the squad to add to his 43 caps. His relationship with the England manager, Graham Taylor, has yet to recover from the debacle of his late withdrawal from the England party for the European championship finals, which left the squad a man short.

The whispered remarks on Merseyside — "can't play, won't play, pass it on" — have finally begun to erode Wright's confidence and there, perhaps, lies the heart of the matter.

Wright's career at Oxford United, Southampton and Derby was sustained by faith in his own skills. His strength then, as now, was an ability to inspire, to lead by deed. Only latterly, as self-doubt gnawed away, did the need to convince others of his worth become apparent.

Many would argue that Wright, who had the bad luck to become captain of a Liverpool team in transition, has suffered from unfair comparison and is only a victim of circumstances.

On his arrival at Liverpool, Graeme Souness's first task was to establish a central defensive partnership as effective as that forged by Alan Hansen and Mark Lawrenson between 1981 and 1987. But Wright possesses neither the elegance of Hansen nor the intuitive positional sense of Lawrenson.

Hansen has sympathy for Wright. "Liverpool is a team which is committed to compressing the game, to pushing forwards," he said. "When the opposition has the ball they hold firm and do not fall back. The problem is that Mark's previous clubs employed defensive systems, which demanded that players go backwards, quickly, when possession was lost."

Hansen was unsure whether Wright could ever fully integrate himself into the Liverpool defence. Indeed, he wondered whether it was fair to demand that he should try at this stage of his career.

"A player's natural instinct under pressure is to go back to what he knows the best," he said. "When I was put into Liverpool's first team, I was surrounded by players who had been there for quite a while. What Mark Wright needs, and what several of his teammates need, is time. The problem is, you don't tend to get it at Liverpool."

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LATEST

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: West Ham 3, Watford 2. Postponed: Arsenal v Oxford United.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Postponed: Premier division: Motherwell v Dundee United; Rangers v Falkirk. Second division: Berwick v Brechin; East Fife v Clyde; East Stirling v Arbroath; Forfar v Queen's Park; Stenhousemuir v Alloa.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Postponed: Second division: Derby v Scunthorpe.

COUNTY ANTRIM SHIELD: Semi-final: Postponed: Glenavon v Carrick.

Late results on Monday

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Botswana 0, South Africa 2 (in Gaborone); Tunisia 3, Bulgaria 0 (in Baja).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City 2, Southampton 4; Crystal Palace 2, Wimbledon 1. League Cup: Postponed: Torquay v Plymouth.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley 3, Manchester City 1; Bolton 4, Sheffield Utd 4; Leeds 0, Aston Villa 2.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English British Gas Trophy: Fourth round: Chester 1, Rotherham 2; Hull 4, Coventry 2. English Adidas Under-19 Trophy: Greater Manchester 1, Lancashire 1; West Yorkshire 2, Northumberland 2; Northamptonshire 2, Buckinghamshire 0. English Adidas Under-15 Trophy: Cleveland 1, South Yorkshire 4; West Yorkshire 1, Northumberland 2. Tour Match (under-19): Merseyside 4, New South Wales 3. Wilney Cup: Quarter-final: Kettering 4, Reading 1.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Cup: Ashton Utd 3, Rossendale Utd 1.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): San Antonio Spurs 109, Detroit Pistons 91; Charlotte Hornets 132, Dallas Mavericks 113.

CRICKET

CASTLE CUP: Johannesburg: Natal 279 and 71; Transvaal 154 and 147 (M Yachad 53; P Symcox 4 for 40). Natal won by 49 runs. Bloemfontein: Orange Free State 268 and 303 for 1 dec; Western Province 165 and 290 (G Kirsten 105; O Henry 5 for 88). Orange Free State won by 114 runs. Port Elizabeth: Northern Transvaal 236 and 92 for 3; Eastern Province 268 for 7 dec. Match drawn.

CYCLING

STUTTGART: Six-day race: Leading positions (after fourth night): 1, K Khalobchov (Russ) and P Pieters (Holl), 315pts; 2, D Clark (Aus) and P Bincoletto (It), 239; 3, A Kappes (Ger) and E de Wilde (Bel), 220.

HOCKEY

CARDIFF: Welsh women's indoor championships: Final positions: 1, Porthcawl; 2, Cardiff Athletic; 3, Bangor.

NEWTON AYCLIFFE: Northern Premier Indoor League: Final positions: 1, Welton, 21pts; 2, Doncaster, 16; 3, Norton, 14.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Norwich City 1, Crosby 2; Wisbech 2, Westcliff 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): St Louis Blues 1, Detroit Red Wings 0; Toronto Maple Leafs 4, Tampa Bay Lightning 2; New York Rangers 3, Vancouver Canucks 3.

MOTOR RALLYING

PARIS-DAKAR: Seventh African stage (Chenachen, Algeria to Bir Ammane, Mauritania, 650km): Cars: 1, J-P Fontenay (Fr), Mitsubishi, 1hr 57min 44sec; 2, S Saby (Fr), Mitsubishi, at 11min 10sec; 3, H Auriol (Fr), Citroen, at 15'37; 4, P Lartigue (Fr), Citroen, at 17'30; 5, A Vatanen (Fin), Citroen, at 22'40. Overall: 1, Saby, 14hr 27min 24sec; 2, Lartigue, at 1hr 42min 56sec; 3, Auriol, 4:38:44; 4, Kenjiro Shinozuka (Japan), Mitsubishi, at 6:46:44; 5, S Servia Puig (Sp), Lada, at 8h05:34. Motorcycles: 1, J Arcarons (Sp), Yamaha, 5:57:27; 2, T Charbonnier (Fr), Yamaha, at 3'31; 3, S Peterhansel (Fr), Yamaha, at 5:45; 4, P Sireyjol (Fr), Suzuki, at 36'16; 5, X Ribs (Sp), KD, at 44'16. Overall: 1, Peterhansel, 22:42:23; 2, Charbonnier, at 1:22:58; 3, Ribs, 5:04:00.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Cancelled: Penarth v Cardiff Institute.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Dartford GS 3, Coopers 13; Gravesend GS 37, City of London Freemen's 3; Hymers College 61, Harrogate GS 0; Judd 3, St Joseph's College, Ipswich 12; King's, Macclesfield 22, St Bede's 8; Reigate GS 10, London Orsony 0; Wallington RS 25, Latymer Upper 3; Warwick 64, Bishop Vesey GS 0.

TENNIS

SYDNEY: New South Wales open championships: Men's singles: First round: T Muster (Austria) bt A Cherkasov (Russ), 6-4, 6-2; C Bergstrom (Swe) bt M Larsson (Swe), 6-4, 6-2; J Svensson (Swe) bt J Sánchez (Sp), 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; P Sampras (US) bt A Medvedev (Ukr), 2-6, 6-3, 6-2; H Holm (Swe) bt A Mancini (Arg), 6-4, 6-0; A Manadoni (Isr) bt C Costa (Sp), 6-1, 5-7, 6-4; E Sánchez (Sp) bt R Krajicek (Holl), 7-6, 7-6; C Pioline (Fr) bt G Forget (Fr), 7-6, 6-3; N Kulti (Swe) bt M Gustafsson (Swe), 6-3, 5-3; M Woodforde (Aus) bt T Enqvist (Swe), 4-6, 6-1, 6-1. Women's singles: First round: A Sánchez-Vicario (Sp) bt L Meskhi (Georgia), 4-6, 6-4, 6-0; S Fröbler (Holl) bt B Falco-Valella (Arg), 6-1, 6-1; T Whittinger (US) bt M Oremans (Holl), 2-6, 6-1, 6-2; L Maleeva (US) bt F Labat (Arg), 6-4, 6-4; D Monami (Bel) bt E Smylie (Aus), 6-3, 7-5; J Capriati (US) bt I Demongeot (Fr), 6-1, 6-2; J Wiesner (Austria) bt P Thoren (Fin), 6-4, 4-6, 6-4; A Huber (Ger) bt A Grossman (US), 6-4, 4-6, 7-6.

AUCKLAND: Men's tournament: First round: M Washington (US) bt M A Gonzalez (Sp), 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; M Gosliner (Ger) bt S You (Aus), 6-3, 4-6, 6-3; T Carbonell (Sp) bt M Schapers (Neth), 6-7, 6-1, 6-4; K Evernden (NZ) bt J Bates (GB), 6-2, 6-1; C Pridham (Can) bt S Simian (Fr), 6-2, 6-2; C Adams (US) bt A Chesnokov (Russ), 4-6, 6-3, 7-6; B Steven (NZ) bt P Rafter (Aus), 6-4, 6-4; A Antonitsch (Austria) bt P Moraing (Ger), 6-3, 6-7, A Volkov (Russ) bt M Ondruska (SA), 8-1, 6-3.

JAKARTA: Men's tournament: First round: G Pozzi (It) bt L Jonsson (Swe), 6-4, 7-5; F Santoro (Fr) bt B Wijaya (Indo), 6-3, 6-3; J Eltingh (Holl) bt G Schaller (Austria), 6-3, 6-4; H Skoff (Austria) bt J Grabb (US), 6-4, 7-6; R Reneberg (US) bt C van Rensburg (SA), 7-5, 6-2; P Kuiman (Ger) bt D Nargiso (It), 7-6, 6-4; P Haarhuis (Holl) bt L Lavalle (Mex), 6-3, 6-4; D Prinosil (Ger) bt O Delaitre (Fr), 6-4, 6-2; A Olhovsky (Russ) bt C Wilkinson (GB), 7-6, 3-6, 6-0; CU Steeb (Ger) bt F Roig (Sp), 6-4, 6-2.

MELBOURNE: Women's tournament: First round: E Zardo (Switz) bt N Van Lottum (Fr), 6-3, 4-6, 6-4; L Nelland (Lat) bt H Gorrochategui (Arg), 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; P Hy (Can) bt K Po (US), 6-4, 2-6, 6-2; N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt F Bonsignori (It), 4-6, 6-2, 6-4; S Teaud (Fr) bt G Helgeson (US), 7-6, 6-4; L Field (Aus) bt M Bollegraf (Holl), 6-3, 6-1; L Harvey-Wild (US) bt A-M Polderyl (Hun), 6-0, 0-6, 6-4; Fang Li (China) bt W Probst (Ger), 7-5, 6-2; N Provis (Aus) bt E Manokova (Russ), 7-5, 6-4; K Godridge (Aus) bt R White (US), 6-2, 6-3.

YACHTING

GLOBE CHALLENGE SOLO ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Leading positions yesterday (with distance to finish): 1, Bagages Superior (A Gautier, Fr), 13,071 miles; 2, Fleury Michon (P Poupon, Fr), 13,616; 3, Groupe LG (B de Broc, Fr), 13,652; 4, Solep Helvim (J-L Van den Heede, Fr), 13,743; 5, K and H Bank Matav (N Fa, Hun), 13,882; 6, Eustad Europa BBK (J de Ugarte, Sp), 14,407; 7, A Wynne-Thomas (Cardiff Discovery, GB), 14,808; 8, Vuarnet Watches (B Galley, Fr), 14,885; 9, Everlast/Neil Pride (V Madrigal, It), 15,094; 10, Cecile c d'Azzaine (V Parlier, Fr), 15,228; 11, FRS Solo Nantes (J-Y Hasselin, Fr), 15,488.

YACHTING

Metal fatigue considered main culprit

METAL fatigue is now the prime suspect for the damaged masts in the British Steel race around the world. Rigs from the nine boats to reach Hobart so far have been examined by experts (Keith Wheatley writes).

Such is the potential fallout from identifying responsibility for the failures that a mixture of mast-makers, insurance assessors and metallurgists has been prowling the dockside.

"We are now 100 per cent convinced that fatigue was the crucial ingredient," Andrew Roberts, the project director, said. He admits to ultimate responsibility for the choice of components, but says that the burden is shared by all who provided advice and responsibility to the fleet.

One yacht, British Steel II, dismasted three weeks ago, is expected to reach Tasmania on Friday, effectively out of the race.

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

FA Cup
Third round
Cambridge Utd v Sheffield Wed (all ticket, 7.45)
Leicester v Barnsley (7.45)
Luton v Bristol City (7.45)
Middlesbrough v Chelsea (7.45)
Norwich v Coventry (7.45)
Southend v Millwall (7.45)

FA Cup
Third-round replays
Bristol Rovers v Aston Villa (all ticket, 8.0)
Charlton v Leeds (all ticket, 7.45)
Huddersfield v Gillingham
Liverpool v Bolton
Reading v Manchester City (7.45)

Autoglass Trophy
Second round
Stoke v Barnet (7.45)

Vauxhall FA Trophy
First round
Wealdstone v Bashley (7.45)

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Postponed: Boston v Slough.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Postponed: Premier division: Hearts v St Johnstone; Partick v Hibernian. First division: Meadowbank v Stirling.

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP: Third-round replay: Postponed: Celtic v Clyde.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Southport; Winsford v Chorley. Postponed: Horwich v Marine.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Bohemians v Shelbourne (8.0).

KONICA LEAGUE CUP: Preliminary round: Ovenbran v Abergavenny; Flint v Mold; Llanelli v Alan Lido.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester United v Rotherham (7.0); Newcastle v Notts Forest (7.0); Notts County v Sunderland. Second division: Grimsby v Oldham (7.0); Mansfield v Burnley (7.0); Port Vale v Hull (7.0); West Bromwich v Bradford (7.0); Wigan v Everton (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Portsmouth v Fulham (7.0) Postponed: Brighton v QPR; Ipswich v Millwall; Swindon v Charlton. Second division: Cheltenham v Torquay. League Cup: Exeter v Bournemouth (7.0); Swansea v Cardiff.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Tenants Floodlit Trophy: Bradford Park Avenue v Chadderton; Darwen v Clitheroe; Glossop North End v Maine Road (Man).

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Barri v Stourbridge; Newport AFC v Evesham. Southern division: Burnham v Poole.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Bridport v Frome.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: President's Cup: Third round: Brigg v Ossett Albion.

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Welsh League
First division
Bridgend v Pontypool (7.15)

Club match
Abertillery v Cheltenham (7.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Widnes v Swinton (7.30).

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Salford v Leigh (7.30). Second division: Oldham v Rochdale (7.30). Third division: Batley v Dewsbury (7.30); Keighley v Doncaster (7.30). Postponed: Whitehaven v Blackpool.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Leicester Riders v Derby Bucks.

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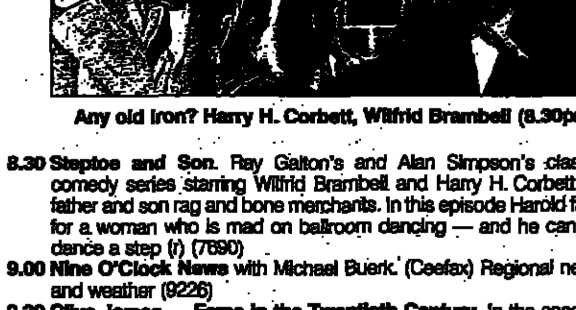
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BBC1

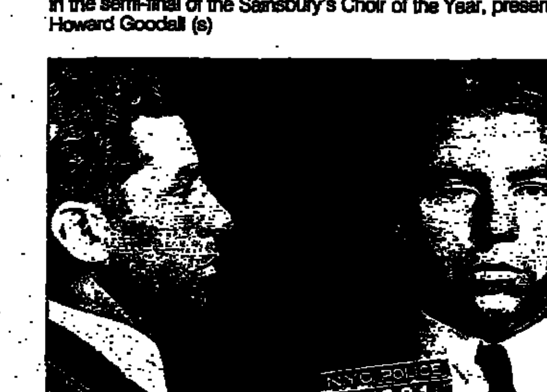
6.00 Business Breakfast presented by Paul Burden, Sara Coburn and Heather Payton (16226)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News. News and topical reports from home and abroad with extended bulletins on the hour and headlines every 15 minutes. Plus business updates, sport, weather and travel news (67495431).
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (9148313) **9.45 Ross King.** Game show. This morning's guest is Olympic athlete Tessa Sanderson (s) (3240955)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (4839077) **10.05 Playdays.** Foe the very young (r) (s) (2489706)
10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Magazine series presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Today's edition includes a romantic story and an agony aunt phone-in with Claire Rayner. With **News** (Ceefax) and weather at **11.00** and **12.00** (90141413)
12.15 Pebble Mill introduced by Alan Titchmarsh (s) (3483313) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (24220145)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (39394)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (58068874) ***1.50 Eldorado*** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (70382918)
2.20 Hawaii Five-O. Steve McGarrett and his team hunt for an environmentalist whose playful pranks take a more sinister turn. Starring Jack Lord (r) (1861495) **3.10 Primetime.** Roy Castle and Maggie Philbin meet some of the animals bringing happiness to older people who are lonely or ill, through the Pets as Therapy charity; and there is advice on coping with the practicalities of death (s) (8979023)
3.50 The Adventures of Buzzy Bee and Friends (9380400) **3.55 Bitsa.** Ideas for turning junk into imaginative items (s) (7784023) **4.10 Jackanory.** Stri Neal with the last part of *Florizella and the Wolves* (s) (5262684) **4.25 Quick Draw McGraw** (r) (7801874) **4.30 The Animals of Farthing Wood.** Episode two of the 13-part animated series. (Ceefax) (s) (416)
5.00 Newsround (1036923) **5.05 The Return of the Psammead.** The second of a six-part children's drama adapted by Helen Cresswell from books by E. Nesbit. (Ceefax) (s) (3675706)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (617139). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (481)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (961). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Eldorado. (Ceefax) (s) (9435)
7.30 Tomorrow's World. Carmen Pryce visits the longest tunnel in Europe; and Howard Stableford tests a gadget designed to make life easier for swimmers and scuba divers. (Ceefax) (s) (145)
8.00 The Dick Emery Show. The first of two programmes showcasing the many comic characters created by the late funnyman (r) (2955)


Any old iron? Harry H. Corbett, Wilfrid Brambell (8.30pm)

8.30 Steptoe and Son. Ray Galton's and Alan Simpson's classic comedy series starring Wilfrid Brambell and Harry H. Corbett as father and son rag and bone merchants. In this episode Harold falls for a woman who is mad on ballroom dancing — and he cannot dance a step (r) (7690)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (9226)
9.30 Clive James — Fame in the Twentieth Century. In the second instalment of his eight-part investigation into the nature of fame, Clive James looks at those who became legends during the years 1927 to 1933. (Ceefax) (s) (482145).
10.20 Sportsnight introduced by Desmond Lynam. Football: highlights from three of tonight's FA Cup third round replays; Ice Skating: action from the second day of the European figure championships in Helsinki; Rugby Union: preview of the five nations' championship which begins on Saturday (967077)
12.20am Weather (1654172). Ends at **12.25**
2.15 BBC Select: Accountancy Television. Scrambled (612559) **3.15-3.45 Legal Network Television Preview** (45117) **4.00-4.50 TV. Edits.** Scrambled (9039998)

BBC2

8.00 Breakfast News (4324771)
8.15 Westminster (9788481)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather followed by **You and Me** (r) (90087348) **2.15 Look, Stranger.** A profile of John Webb, a professional treasure hunter (r) (90993955) **2.35 Country File.** John Craven explores rural issues (r) (7802855)
3.00 News. (Ceefax) Weather (9250400) **3.05 Westminster Live** introduced by Iain Macwhirter (8202416) **3.50 News.** (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (5027969)
4.00 Catchword. Game for wordsmiths, hosted by Paul Coia (s) (874)
4.30 Behind the Headlines. With Linda Agran (s) (918)
5.00 Top Gear Take 2. Tony Mason joins a group of vintage bus and lorry enthusiasts on a journey across the Pennines in their restored vehicles (s) (6230665)
5.10 Horizon: Cheating Time. A look at a controversial new technique designed to reverse the menopause (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6659787)
6.00 Star Trek. Classic science fiction series starring William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. In this episode Captain Kirk is accused of cowardice after one of his crew members is killed during a violent storm (r). (Ceefax) (721176)
6.50 DEF II: Reportage. The youth current affairs series investigates the experience of war (s) (755400)
7.30 Choir of the Year. Eight youth and adult choirs compete for a place in the semi-final of the Sainsbury's Choir of the Year, presented by Howard Goodall (s)


Recruited by US intelligence: "Lucky" Luciano (8.10pm)

8.10 Timewatch: Allied to the Mafia.
● CHOICE: Richard Bradley's engrossing film tells how the Sicilian Mafia, having been all but broken by Mussolini, found an unexpected lifeline from, of all people, United States naval intelligence. In the months after Pearl Harbor the Americans were deeply concerned about losses to shipping. They feared sabotage and since the New York waterfront was controlled by the Mob, the Mob was called in to help. The cooperation went as high as the godfather himself, "Lucky" Luciano, and continued after the Allied invasion of Sicily in 1943. The Mob exacted its price. Thanks to the Americans, dozens of Mafia figures who has been lying low under Mussolini were restored to positions of power. The story is pieced together with the help of shame-faced American intelligence officers and Luciano's sprightly, 96-year-old lawyer (552413)
9.00 M*A*S*H. The medics of the 4077th have the task of convincing a colonel (Leslie Nielsen) that he is suffering from severe battle fatigue (r) (910690)
9.25 Clarissa.
● CHOICE: It took pluck for David Nokes and Janet Barron to turn Samuel Richardson's vast, unwieldy and little-read 18th century novel into a television drama. Nokes and Barron had to extract a story which is relayed entirely though letters and fashion it into a flowing narrative. They succeeded beyond question, helped by the tale's contemporary resonances. Baldly summarised, the novel is about money and sex, obsessions still in the late 20th century. More than that, *Clarissa* has a feminist ring, charting a woman's spirited (though doomed) attempt to fight a male dominated society. Played, in an assured television debut, by Saskia Wickham, Clarissa is an heiress who spurns an arranged marriage only to be destroyed by a scheming rake (Sean Bean). The three-part serial was first shown, to wide acclaim, in 1991. (Ceefax) (s) (6211348)
10.30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman (319665)
11.15 Culture Clash. The last in the series exploring the arts-science divide (s) (462481)
11.55 Behind the Headlines (r) (s) (232665)
12.25am Weather (5239207). Northern Ireland: (to 1.50) Without You I'm Nothing

ITV LONDON

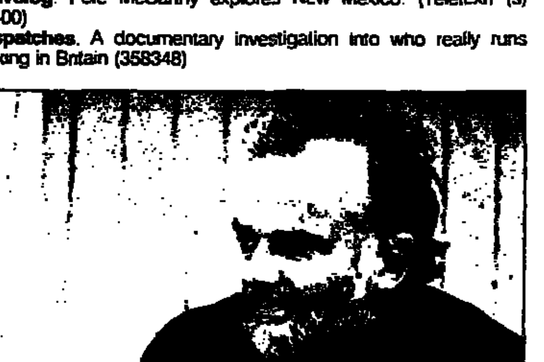
6.00 GMTV presented by Michael Wilson and Fiona Armstrong. Today's guests include Kenneth Clarke, MP, Will Carling, Kevin McNally and John McCardle (7654787)
9.25 Runway. Quiz hosted by Richard Madeley (9718313) **9.55 London Today** and weather (2392226)
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical discussion (1140067)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine series introduced by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes legal advice and cookery ideas. With national and international news at **10.55** and regional news at **11.55** followed by national weather (64046042)
12.10 Allsorts. For the very young (s) (9728226)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News. (Teletext) Weather (5900085) **1.05 London Today** and weather (64886232)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Teletext) (455856) **1.45 A Country Practice.** Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (184435)
2.15 The Chrystal Rose Show. Topical chat show (176416) **2.45 Take the High Road.** Drama series set in the Highlands (7895665)
3.10 ITN News headlines (9341706) **3.15 London Today** and weather (9340077) **3.20 Blockbusters.** Bob Holness with another round of the general knowledge quiz for teenagers (s) (2353987)
3.50 Cartoon (9382868) **3.55 Grotbags** starring Carol Lee Scott (r) (s) (9229145) **4.15 Captain Zed and the Zee Zone** (s) (8487936) **4.40 Fun House.** Slapstick game show presented by Pat Sharp (1506482)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (3669145)
5.40 Early Evening News. (Teletext) Weather (236313)
6.00 London Tonight introduced by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. The guests include Clive Anderson (40503)
7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel springs an emotional surprise on another unsuspecting worthy (s) (4503)


Traffic petition: Elizabeth Dawn, Sally Whittaker (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (313)
8.00 Inspector Morse: The Day of the Devil. Morse and Det Sgt Lewis are on the trail of a convicted rapist who has made a violent prison break. Their investigations lead them into the disturbing world of devil worship. Starring John Thaw and Kevin Whately. (Teletext) (3348)
10.00 News at Ten. (Teletext) Weather (22619) **10.30 London Tonight** and weather (544232)
10.40 Film: Real Men (1987) starring James Belushi and John Ritter. Bland spy film satire with Belushi playing a macho CIA agent who recruits a reluctant office clerk, Ritter, as a courier. Together they must deliver a secret map from California to the White House in order to save the world but all number of pursuers are out to scotch their mission. Directed by Dennis Feldman (89589416)
12.15am The Equalizer. Edward Woodward stars as McCall, a former CIA agent who now takes on assignments nobody else will handle (2278646)
1.05 The Twilight Zone. Another tale of the supernatural (8283240)
1.30 Entertainment UK. Weekly guide to leisure time activities (s) (37820)
2.30 The Chrystal Rose Show. A repeat of the chat show shown at 2.15pm (96288)
3.00 The Little Picture Show. Mariella Frostrup reviews the latest video releases (27443)
4.00 60 Minutes. American news magazine (45337)
5.00 Riviera. Glossy French soap (22066)
5.30 ITN Morning News (53375). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.40 Spiff and Hercules. Cartoon adventures (2387481)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (25145)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (36868)
9.30 Schools (717665)
12.00 The Parliament Programme. With Anne Perkins (12232)
12.30 Sesame Street. Early learning series (79752) **1.30 Lift Off** Children's entertainment (66597)
2.00 Film: China Clipper (1936, b/w) starring Pat O'Brien, Humphrey Bogart and Beverley Roberts. Drama about an aviator, determined to develop trans-Pacific flights, whose obsession leads to him neglecting his wife. Directed by Raymond Enright (844435)
3.35 The Three Stooges in *Crash Goes the Hash* (1944, b/w) (968052)
4.00 Birdscape. Wildlife artist Bruce Pearson goes to Wales in search of Britain's rarest bird — the red kite (r). (Teletext) (482)
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley with another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (489831)
5.05 Film: Cowboys Don't Cry (1988) starring Zachary Ansley and Ron White. Family drama about a motherless adolescent trying to form a relationship with his former rodeo star father who has taken to the bottle. Directed by Anne Wheeler (22560313)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) Weather (727232)
7.50 Comment (281684)
8.00 Brookside. Suburban Merseyside soap. (Teletext) (s) (5665)
8.30 Travelog. Pete McCarthy explores New Mexico. (Teletext) (s) (7400)
9.00 Dispatches. A documentary investigation into who really runs boxing in Britain (358348)


Reliving his childhood in Anglesey: DJ John Peel (9.45pm)

9.45 Snapshots.
● CHOICE: The disc jockey John Peel returns to Anglesey, scene of both childhood holidays and his National Service. It is another simple and effective film in a watchable series. Now in his fifties, Peel looks back on a comfortable middle-class upbringing in which a nanny provided more affection than his parents. Peel's father was away fighting the Germans in North Africa. When he did come home on leave, he seemed a distant and authoritarian figure. Peel regrets he did not know him better, remarking that "life tends to be a crisis of non-communication". As for National Service, Peel, the public schoolboy, was expected to be officer material. He tells us how the commission eluded him and why pursuing an interest in popular music became a form of rebellion (166077)
10.00 The Golden Girls. Sophie answers a lonely hearts ad in a magazine for "senior singles" and thinks she has found Mr Right (Teletext) (s) (13961)
10.30 Nightingales. Comedy series starring Robert Lindsay, David Threlfall and James Ellis as a team of eccentric nightwatchmen (s) (690042)
11.05 The Prisoner. Cult adventure drama from the 1960s (207481)
12.05am The Steve Allen Show (b/w). The guests are Bob Hope, Patrice Munsell and Ray Anthony (1789998)
12.35 The Best of the Worst. More cringing clips from tacky television (s) (6711240)
1.00 Film: Andaz (1971) starring Hema Malini and Shammi Kapor. Hindi drama about a widow and a widower brought together by their children. Directed by Ramesh Sippi. English subtitles (59248462). Ends at **3.55**

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VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Gardening Time (176416) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (2353987) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (3669145) **6.00** Home and Away (393482) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (965665) **12.15** Film: The Day the Earth Caught Fire (251004) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77153) **2.30** 60 Minutes. (4583085) **3.25** BPM (8021288) **4.30** Riviera (59608) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder

BORDER
As London except: 2.15 Gardening Time (176416) **2.45-3.10** Sprockets (7895665) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (2353987) **6.00** Lookaround (357) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (329) **12.15** Film: The Day The Earth Caught Fire (251004) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77153) **2.30** 60 Minutes (4583085) **3.25** BPM (8021288) **4.30** Riviera (59608)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (455856) **1.45** Home and Away (184435) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (176416) **3.20-3.50** GP (2353987) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (3669145) **6.00** Home and Away (393482) **6.25-7.00** Central News (965665) **12.15** Film: Eat and Run (832511) **1.45** The War of the Worlds (8611004) **2.40** Entertainment UK (4595820) **3.40** BPM (2934482) **4.40-5.30** Jobfinder (6975875)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (455856) **1.45** Home and Away (184435) **2.15-2.45** Wish You Were Here..? (176416) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (2353987) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (3669145) **6.00** Home and Away (357)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45 Blockbusters (184435) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (176416) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (2353987) **6.00** HTV News (357) **6.30-7.00** Stars of Tomorrow (329) **12.15** Film: The Day the Earth Caught Fire (251004) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77153) **2.30** 60 Minutes (4583085) **3.25** BPM (8021288) **4.30** Riviera (59608) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (22066)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** Trailblazers

MERIDIAN
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Dining in France (176416) **3.20-3.50** The Young Ones (2353987) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (357) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (329)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Wish You Were Here..? (176416) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (2353987) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (357) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (329) **12.15** American Gladiators (2278646) **1.05** Hollywood Report (4644191) **1.35** Videofashion (2299559) **2.05** Kojak (8040733) **3.00** Music Box (27443) **4.00** Rockport (27896801) **4.15-5.30** Jobfinder (2483608)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.45 Fair City (184435) **2.15-2.45** Love at First Sight (176416) **6.00-7.00** UTV Live at Six (40503) **12.15** Film: The Day the Earth Caught Fire (251004) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77153) **2.30** 60 Minutes (4583085) **3.25** BPM (8021288) **4.00** Get Stuffed **4.30** Riviera (59608) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (22066)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45 Blockbusters (184435) **2.15-2.45** Westcountry Focus (176416) **3.25-3.50** A Country Practice (2454936) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (40503) **12.15** Film: The Day the Earth Caught Fire (251004) **2.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77153) **2.30** 60 Minutes (4583085) **3.25** BPM (8021288) **4.30** Riviera (59608) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (22066)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Wish You Were Here..? (176416) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (2353987) **5.55** Calendar (828597) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (329) **12.15** American Gladiators (4382948) **1.05** Hollywood Report (4644191) **1.35** Videofashion! (2299559) **2.05** Kojak (4269733) **3.00** Music Box (27443) **4.00** Rock Sport (27896801) **4.15-5.30** Jobfinder (2483608)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (25145) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (36868) **9.30** Ysgolion (717665) **12.00** The Parliament Programme (12232) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (67226) **1.00** Lift Off (26232) **1.30** Waterways (86597) **2.00** Film: China Clipper (844435) **3.35** Sumodo (9134023) **3.55** Decisions, Decisions (2634448) **4.25** Slot 23 (1954448) **5.00** Countdown (9481) **5.30** Brookside (706) **6.00** News (572348) **6.10** Heno (167416) **7.00** Pobol y Cwm (2145) **7.30** Ar Y Tir (955) **8.00** Glan Hafren (5865) **8.30** News (237503) **8.55** Fella '93 (230690) **9.25** Stephen King's Golden Years (89734868) **11.15** Equinox (128684) **12.15** The Best of the Worst (6275240) **12.40-1.10am** People First (1660733)

NETWORK 2
Starts: 12.30pm Children's Programmes **6.30** Home and Away (92802400) **7.00** News (92811936) **7.05** Cursai (94742348) **7.30** Coronation Street (92508684) **8.00** News (63372665) **8.03** Lotto Draw (63372665) **8.05** Blackboard Jungle (84557348) **8.30** A Tree for Light (78773058) **9.00** Murphy Brown (24985665) **9.30** News (28349787) **9.35** Northern Exposure (53787416) **10.30** News (32126890) **10.50** The Essential History of Europe (39656771) **11.20-11.50** Tales From the Dark Side

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (45211058) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (6744394) **9.10** Cartoons (1850042) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (73482) **10.00** Strike It Rich (34329) **10.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (54232) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (71348) **12.00** Falcon Crest (93665) **1.00pm** E Street (79936) **1.30** Another World (9862459) **2.20** Santa Barbara (91643394) **2.45** Maude (626481) **3.15** The New Leave It To Beaver (623394) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (6821042) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (9416) **6.00** Rescue (7139) **6.30** E Street (4619) **7.00** Alf (4145) **7.30** Family Ties (3503) **8.00** S.I.B.S. (7665) **8.30** The Heights (74394) **9.30** Hill Street Blues (66619) **10.30** Studs (55861) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (89313) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
Twenty-four hour news service

SKY MOVIES+
6.00am Showcase (4786706)
10.00 Eyes of a Witness (1991): Daniel J. Travanti is arrested for murder (81674)
12.00 Gunfight in Abilene (1967): Western starring Bobby Darin (32961)
2.00pm Judith (1966): Sophia Loren searches for her Nazi husband (22145)
4.00 Maigret (1991): Richard Harris investigates the murder of a friend (8348)
6.00 Eyes of a Witness (as 10am) (43036077)
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (931042)
8.00 White Fang (1991): Ethan Hawke befriends a wolf-dog in Alaska (41226)
10.00 Gremlins 2: The New Batch (1990): Gizmo spawns a reptilian army (780400)
11.50 Eleven Days, Eleven Nights Part 2 (1988): Adult entertainment (767481)
1.10am The Underachievers (1987): Juvenile hi-jinks (5685917)
2.40 Talking Walls (1986): A student spies on couples at a seedy motel (8476375)
4.00 Lean on Me (1989): The true story of a New York teacher (421153). Ends at **5.45**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.15pm Abba the Movie (1977): The Swedish group on tour (98191139)
8.00 The Abdication (1974): Liv Ullman stars as a 17th-century queen (60954)
10.00 The Gauntlet (1977): Clint Eastwood escorts Mob witness Sondra Locke (92400). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
7.00am Yabba-Dabba Doo Celebration: Cartoon with the Flintstones (65787)
9.00 The Man Inside (1990): Jurgen Prochnow infiltrates a German newspaper (34417077)
10.45 Young Winston (1972): Richard Attenborough's biopic of Winston Churchill's early years, starring Simon Ward (58758905)
1.30pm Ghost in the Invisible Bikini (1966): Boris Karloff has to perform a good deed before gaining admittance to Heaven (86961)
3.00 Yabba-Dabba Doo Celebration (as 7am) (52752)
5.00 The Summer of the Falcon: Children stop a man from stealing birds' eggs (59787)
7.00 Columbo: Caution, Murder Can Be a Hazardous Affair (1991): Peter Falk investigates the murder of a producer (83139)
9.00 Love at Large (1989): Private eye Tom Berenger tails the wrong man (48139)
11.00 Scenes from a Mall (1990): Marital comedy starring Woody Allen and Bette Midler (615936)
12.35am The Fan (1981): Michael Biehn stalks Lauren Bacall (657424)
2.20 A Sinful Life (1989): Anita Morris fights to keep her child (55999578)
5.00 Winchester '73 (1950). Western with James Stewart (78589530). Ends at **6.35**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Stretch (72503) **7.00** Trucks 'n' Tractor (16435) **7.30** Motor World (22042) **8.00** Watersports (85874) **9.00** Stretch (38139) **9.30** Footballers' Football Show (53042) **11.30** Stretch (33787) **12.00** Boots and All (48058) **1.00pm** Badminton (57706) **2.00** PGA Golf (91684) **3.00** Muscle Night (37503) **4.00** Footballers' Football Show (9042) **6.00** Soccer News (899787) **6.03** NHRA Drag Racing (3110) **6.30** The Club Show (9990) **7.00** FA Cup Replay: Bristol Rovers v Aston Villa (781400) **10.00** Soccer News (743435) **10.03** Ringside (36874) **12.00-2.00am** FA Cup Replay (28820)

EUROSPORT
8.00am Step Aerobics (33684) **8.30** Figure Skating (19110) **10.30** Step Aerobics (25619) **11.00** Eurogoals (73918) **12.00** Eurofun Magazine (3875868) **12.25pm** Figure Skating (76986348) **4.00** American College Basketball (2243077) **5.25** Figure Skating (62048923) **9.10** Eurosport News (632955) **9.30** Tennis: Sydney Open (13226) **11.30-12.00** Eurosport News (87435)

SCREENSPORT
7.00am Men's Pro Beach Volleyball (92787) **8.00** Show Jumping (93416) **9.00** Ladies Pro Bowling (28597) **10.00** Volleyball (26868) **11.00** Paris-Dakar Rally '93 (50400) **11.30** NFL American Bowl 1993 (64416) **1.30pm** Pro Box (59145) **3.30** Paris-Dakar Rally '93 (2868) **4.00** Monster Trucks (7503) **4.30** Basketball (47961) **5.30** The Bowling World Cup 1992 (47435) **6.30** Pro Kick (15348) **7.30** Jubilee BBM Motorbike Festival (96435) **8.30** Paris-Dakar Rally '93 (9232) **9.00** NBA Basketball (71481) **11.00** Paris-Dakar Rally '93 (42481) **11.30** Football Europa (89674) **12.30-1.00am** Sports Magazine (95801)

LIFESTYLE
10.00am The Spiral Zone (83665) **10.30** Rambo (16961) **11.00** Gloss (52868) **11.30** The Joan Rivers Show (6819771) **12.15pm** Sally Jessy Raphael (1225145) **1.10** David Hamilton's People (77317868) **1.40** Sell-a-Vision (42236226) **2.10** The Last Days of Summer (2945459) **3.00** The New Newlywed Game (8936) **3.30** The Mothers-in-Law (7936) **4.00** Dick Van Dyke Show (9771) **4.30** Jackpot (5955) **5.00** Concentration (3481) **5.30** Sell-a-Vision (2435) **6.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (57752) **7.00** Sell-a-Vision (774110) **10.00** Jukebox Music Videos (1533619) **2.30-3.00** Top Five (28820)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (57017348) **6.15** Chorlton and the Wheelies (57005503) **6.30** Jem (9189961) **7.00** The Animated Flash Gordon (2486139) **7.30** Neighbours (2561874) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (5107690) **8.30** EastEnders (5106961) **9.00** The Bill (5024313) **9.30** One by One (8369955) **10.30** A Very Peculiar Practice (5013771) **11.30** Terry and June (4483351) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (5117077) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7879416) **1.00** EastEnders (2478110) **1.30** The Bill (7878787) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (1020684) **2.30** Just Good Friends (7808023) **3.00** Dallas (6368987) **4.00** The Animated Flash Gordon (7995503) **4.30** Degrassi Junior High (7991787) **5.00** Neighbours (1011936) **5.30** Dr Who (7819139) **6.00** One by One (7887435) **7.00** Father, Dear Father (1024400) **7.30** Terry and June (7992416) **8.00** EastEnders (1113348) **8.30** Just Good Friends (1029955) **9.00** A Very Peculiar Practice (1995706) **10.00** The Bill (5118706) **10.30** The Young Ones (5021226) **11.00** The Goodies (1419431) **11.30** Film: George White's Scandals (1945, b/w) starring Joan Davis and Jack Haley (6971139) **1.10-2.00** Video Bites (3575530)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew MacGregor, including Vivaldi (Concerto in E minor, RV134); Haydn (Symphony No 8 in G, Le Soir); Howells (Three Dances); Weber (Clarinet Concerto No 2 in E flat)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Bohemians in Vienna. Mozart, arr Jan Wendt (Overture, The Marriage of Figaro); Leopold Kozeluh (Clarinet Quartet in E flat, Op 39 No 3); Antonin Reicha (Fugue on a theme by Haydn, Op 36 No 3; Fugue on a theme by Mozart, Op 36 No 7); Antonin Vranicky (Sanctus and Benedictus, Mass in E flat); Jan Vanhal (Symphony in G minor)
10.00 Midweek Choice, presented by Susan Sharpe. Boyce (Symphony No 3 in C: English Concert under Trevor Pinnock); Bax (Piano Trio in B flat: Borodin Trio); Bellini (Overture, Norma: Welsh National Opera Orchestra under Richard Bonynge); Bellini (Vieni, vieni, I Puritani: LSO under Richard Bonynge, with Joan Sutherland, soprano, Luciano Pavarotti, tenor); Britten (Storm Scene, Noyes Fludde: East Suffolk Children's Orchestra; English Chamber Orchestra under Norman Del Mar, with Owen Brannigan, bass, Sheila Rex, soprano); Brahms (Rhapsody in B minor, Op 79 No 1: Julius Katchen, piano); Bach (Sonata No 3 in G minor, BWV 1029: Yo-Yo Ma, cello, Kenneth Cooper, harpsichord); Bloch (Concerto Grosso No 1: Eastman-Rochester Orchestra under Howard Hanson); Benedict (The Moon has raised her lamp above, The Lily of Killarney: Paul Elliot, tenor, Paul Hillier, bass, Lena-Lis Kiesel, piano); Boyce (Symphony No 8 in F: English Consort under Trevor Pinnock)
12.00 Prokofiev — The Ballets (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 Birmingham Lunchtime Concert, live from Studio One, Pebble Mill. Joan Rodgers, soprano, Malcolm Martineau, piano, perform songs by Richard Strauss and Schubert, and four French folk-song arrangements by Britten
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.30 Elgar and the Gramaphone: The Gramaphone Company opened its new studio complex at Abbey Road on November 12, 1931, with a recording session in which Sir Edward Elgar conducted his symphonic study *Falstaff*. Malcolm Ruthven introduces an extract from this recording
4.00 Choral Evensong, live from Guildford Cathedral
5.00 In Tune, with Andrew Green
7.30 BBC Scottish SO under Robert Ziegler, with Nigel Robson, tenor, performs Debussy (Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune); Iain Hamilton (Vers Apollinaire); John Lunn (Le voyage); Tippett (Ritual Dances, The Midsummer Marriage)
8.55 Words
● CHOICE: Without a hint of pomposity (even when "hopefully" crops up), and only rarely getting het up (he thinks it is "appallingly glutinous" to refer to OAPs as senior citizens), Richard Hoggart tonight delivers the third of his mini-essays about the hidden impulses in our speech that indicate important elements in our culture. The blurring of harsh reality achieves its apotheosis in a hospital patient being asked by his doctor: "How are the waterworks today?". Not even *your* waterworks ...
9.00 Vanbrugh Quartet performs Mozart (Clarinet Quintet in A, K581: with Joy Farrall, clarinet); Simpson (String Quartet No.14) (r)
10.05 Alicia de Larrocha: Second of three recitals from 1971. The pianist plays Ravel (Valses nobles et sentimentales); Falla (Andaluza; Cubana, Piezas espanolas; Fantasia Baetica) (r)
10.45 Night Waves: Lisa Jardine discusses the connection between art and politics
11.30 Radu Lupu, piano, plays Schumann (Kinderszenen, Op 15; Etudes symphoniques, Op 13 and Op posth)
12.30-12.35am News
1.00-2.25 Night School (as Radio 5 at 1.05pm) **2.30-3.00 Night School Extra:** English study texts: *Hobson's Choice*

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Midweek, with Libby Purves. The birthday guest is Suggs, lead singer of Madness (s)
10.00-10.30 News; The Wonderful World of Wanda (FM only)
● CHOICE: Illustrating the belief — expressed this morning by an unknown contributor — that reality does not exist unless it is on television, someone once defecated in front of the camera on one of Wanda Sanchez's public access channels. It gives everybody in Manhattan, from poets to pornographers, the chance to "make it" on television. As someone else says in the first of Cathie Mahoney's two documentaries about Sanchez and her not so wonderful world: "Not everybody can have a cause, so they have a television show instead." (s)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Paradise Regained (LW only): The concluding episode of John Milton's sequel to *Paradise Lost*
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray talks to agony aunt Marje Proops. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time: Members of the Glinton Horticultural Society in Cambridgeshire put their questions to the experts (r)
12.00 You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm The Comedians: Sixth of an eight-part dramatisation of Graham Greene's novel. With Michael Kitchen as Brown (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) (s) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Child's Play: The Hanging of Ernest Moon. John Latham's grim tale is the second in a series of five plays on childhood. Ernest (Stephen Hall) is accidentally killed by a group of bullies, led by the charismatic Johnnie (Steven Blezard). Jimmy (Ian Taylor), a member of the group, recounts the tale (s)
2.47 Welcome to My Wireless: The broadcaster Wallace Arnold (Harry Enfield) recalls the 1960s (r)
3.00 News; The Brothers: Anthony Howard traces the history of the trade union movement since the second world war (2/3) (r) (s)
3.42 The Parts, with Alun Lewis
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews the week's new film releases, including *Sarafina*, starring Whoopi Goldberg; talks to the musician Martin Carthy; and reviews the Black Light Theatre of Prague's *Alice in Wonderland* (s)
4.45 Short Story: *Food with Feeling*, by Nicola Barker. Read by Jane Whittenshaw
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Frank Muir Presents ... 500 Years of Humorous Prose (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers (s)
7.20 Face the Facts, with John Waite
7.45 Medicine Now (r)
8.15 Counting the Cost: Brian Widlake profiles winners and losers in the recession (2/6)
8.45 The Hospital: First of an eight-part documentary on Walsgrave Hospital in Coventry (r)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r) (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White (s) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Alexander MacLeod (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Mr Olim, by Ernest Raymond. Read by Ian Holm (3/10)
11.00 From Loon Pants to Safety Pins: A celebration of the 1970s (r) (s)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** World Service (LW only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Classic FM: FM-100-102.

RADIO 1
FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Neale James (FM only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Mark Goodier's Mega Hits **6.30** News '93 **7.00** Mark Goodier's Evening Session **9.00** The Steve Edwards Soul Show **10.00** Nicky Campbell Goes into the Night **12.00-4.00am** Bob Harris (FM only)

RADIO 2
FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** Barn Dance from the Guildhall, Milton Keynes **8.30** Sqeezing Round the World (r) **9.00** Bombay Beat: Music from the Indian cinema (2/4) (r) **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.15** Comedy Bookcase **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

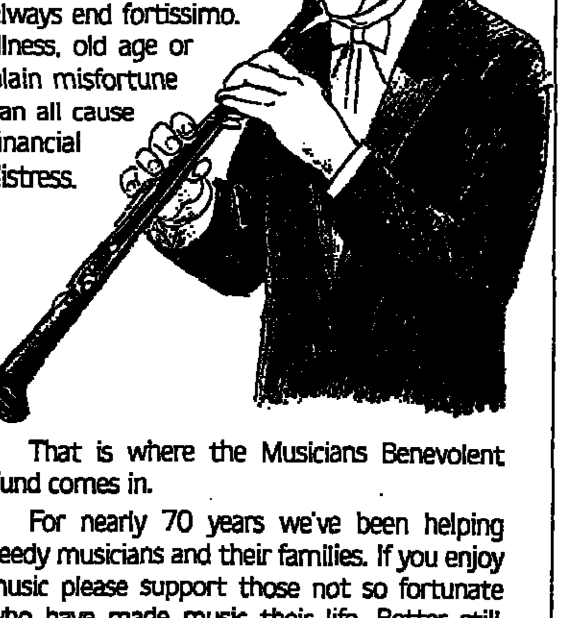
RADIO 5
News and sport on the hour until 7.00pm. **6.00am** World Service **6.30** Danny Baker's Morning Edition **9.30** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **11.30** BFBS Worldwide **12.30pm** Education Matters **1.05** Schools: Topic Resources 7-9; **1.20** Dance Workshop; **1.40** Verse Universe; **1.50** Time and Tune: Music Course 2; **2.10** Drama Workshop **2.30** A Game of Two Halves **4.30** Five Aside **6.30** Brassic, by Juliet Ace (4/6) **7.15** The Island of Adventure, by Enid Blyton (8/10) **7.30** Gary Lineker's Football Night **10.10** Hit the North, incl **11.00** Sport **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE
All times in GMT. **4.30am** World Business Report **4.40** Travel and Weather **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** News **6.14** Travel **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Development '93 **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Replace a Disc **8.30** Jazz Score **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Travelling Tales **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** Newsdesk **11.29** Travel **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update **Midday** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.35** Writers in a Nutshell **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: Titus Groan **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** Poets and Places **3.30** Back to Square One **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** News and Business Report **5.14** Travel **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** News **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.10** News About Britain **10.15** Sports International **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** From Our Own Correspondent **11.30** Multitrack 2 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Back to Square One **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** The Farming World **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sports International **3.00** News **3.10** News About Britain **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Assignment **4.00** News **4.15** The Farming World

CLASSIC FM
6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Book Browse with John Russell **8.00** Classic FM Concert: Berlin PO under James Levine. Includes Schumann (Symphony No 3 in E flat, Op 97, Rhenish); Mozart (Concerto for Oboe and Orchestra in C, KV 314) **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-6.00am** Robert Booth

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Bristol Rovers manager turns up the heat

Allison reopens war of words with Atkinson

BY DENNIS SHAW

MALCOLM Allison, the Bristol Rovers manager, yesterday reopened the psychological battle he has been waging against his opposite number at Aston Villa, Ron Atkinson, by claiming that Villa will slide out of the FA Cup in the clubs' third-round replay tonight at Twerton Park.

Allison similarly stirred the pre-match build-up before Rovers' 1-1 draw at Villa Park and, after his apparent success before that game in taunting Atkinson, he has decided to repeat the trick.

"People have told me that I won the war of words easily last time, which surprised me," Allison said. "Atkinson is usually such a talkative guy. Anyway, I did it for a reason. It was just the old-fashioned way of stirring up cup-ties.

"Now there will be a drink waiting for him after the match, but judging by the way he acted at Villa Park, he won't be here for me to pour it out. He will be a disappointed man back on the team coach ready to go home."

Atkinson, steadfastly avoiding any suggestion of trading insults, responded: "Well, it will be nice to go in as underdogs, although we have just beaten Arsenal and Liverpool in successive league games. Rovers, I notice, have lost their last three at home." Atkinson did, however, acknowledge that the replay is "a tricky little situation".

"I suppose there is a psychological factor to sort out, but I just do not accept that there is any such thing as complacency these days when a big club plays one from a lower division," he said. "There is far too much at stake for that. Had [Dean] Saunders not missed a penalty at Villa Park, there would be no need for a replay at all."

With Dalian Atkinson ruled out of the game because of a a groin strain, Cyrille Regis, Dwight Yorke and the inexperienced German, Stefan Beinlich, are included in the Villa squad.

Atkinson's players, aware of the managers' antipathy, yesterday promised not to let it affect their performance. "I don't know what went on between the two men but I do know it does not affect our performance," Paul McGrath said.

The players also said they would not be intimidated by the atmosphere within the small stadium in Bath where Rovers play. Several have played there before, including Shaun Teale, the former Weymouth and Bournemouth player, who said: "If they have the impression that we're unhappy because we have not played there, then they're wrong because several of us have."

Saunders, who played there for Liverpool, added: "Facilities are not as bad as has been suggested. It is better playing there when the ground is full and there is an atmosphere. The only worry would be a high wind or other adverse conditions to level it."

Villa, meanwhile, are planning for the future. Atkinson is negotiating with Pisa, the Italian second division club, to sign Henrik Larsen, the Danish international midfield player, on loan.

Larsen has satisfied Atkinson in two reserve appearances, and Atkinson said: "He is not yet match-fit but he is not far away, and he has more physical power than any other midfield player we have."

☐ Alan Shearer, the Blackburn forward, is expected to miss England's World Cup qualifying match against San Marino next month after a cartilage operation that could put him on the sidelines for four weeks.

Shearer, who cost Blackburn £3.3 million when they signed him from Southampton last summer, has played 30 minutes in four matches since Boxing day.

Shearer saw a specialist at Ewood Park on Monday and hours later was in hospital for keyhole surgery. He will miss the FA Cup fourth-round tie away to Crewe or Marine on and the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg at home to Ipswich or Sheffield Wednesday on February 10.

The England match is at Wembley a week later — and the only consolation for the England manager, Graham Taylor, is that San Marino are the weakest side in the group.

☐ Les Ferdinand was yesterday told he will be staying at Queens Park Rangers until at least the end of the season. Richard Thompson, the Rangers chairman, made the announcement after meeting Gerry Francis, the manaager, who had threatened to resign if Rangers sold the forward.

☐ Mark Draper, the England Under-21 midfield player, yesterday rejected a £1.2-million transfer from Notts County to Blackburn Rovers in the hope of reviving a move to Sheffield Wednesday.

GRAHAM MORRIS



Staying in the spin: Salisbury at work in the nets in Delhi yesterday

No decision on revised dates for cricket tour

FROM PETER BALL IN DELHI

THE confusion over the programme of one-day internationals on the England cricket tour of India was unresolved late last night. A lengthy meeting with Indian Board officials failed to come up with a new date to replace the match that was scheduled to be played in Ahmedabad on Saturday but was called off because of renewed religious violence..

The sticking-point in the England camp has been the steadfast refusal by Graham Gooch, the England captain, to countenance any change in the Test dates. His priority was reinforced yesterday when he took an important step towards winning the Test series by deciding to keep Ian Salisbury, the Sussex leg spinner, on the tour.

A meeting between Bob Bennett, the England tour manager, and the secretary of the Indian Board, Chengappa Nagaraj, broke up without any decision on a replacement for Saturday's one-day international.

When the meeting ended after midnight, Bennett said: "There are all sorts of ramifications to the problem. We are meeting again at four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon but we can reach no decision as he has obviously got problems to solve."

England have resisted the Indian desire for the game to be played before the first or second Test, which would mean rearranging the dates of the Tests. "They are leaning on us very heavily," Bennett said, "and in these very different circumstances we are looking at their position as sympathetically as possible but we have not altered our position on this."

For their part, the Indians are not willing to reschedule the game in Delhi, which in many ways would be the most logical choice, although Jaipur, where the teams are already to meet on Monday, is still an option if the Indians accede to the request to play the game on Saturday.

England's resistance to a postponement reflects Gooch's belief that Test matches are sacrosanct. Tour parties, it appears, are not, and with winning the Tests as Gooch's prime objective, England have added Salisbury to their original party.

Salisbury is unlikely to play a part until the Tests, but he has apparently already done enough as a net bowler to move from being an outsider to being regarded as a likely member of the Test team.

"We feel as a team that we need to keep the services of Ian here," Gooch explained. "He is a very fine young bowler, he had a great summer last year, and his variety should enable him to play a part in the Test series. We would not be doing our duty to England and to the team if we didn't take that into consideration."

Salisbury was told of the decision while having breakfast. It means that he will not go to Australia with the A team and he will be replaced by the Surrey off spinner, James Boiling.

"I knew I was coming as a net bowler," Salisbury said. "but there was always a chance that someone could get injured, and I bowled my nuts off in the nets to try and impress."

He did so so effectively that he has looked the best English spinner and, although Gooch insisted that the decision was no reflection on the other spinners, it seems likely that one will have to be displaced if Salisbury is going to play in the Tests.

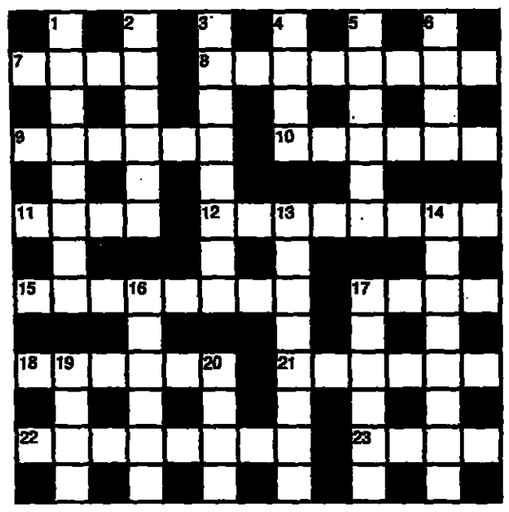
There is more concern about the batting, and the lack of cricket. With that in mind, today's match against an Indian Board President's XI is of prime importance for Smith, Stewart, Fairbrother and Hick, who are all searching for their touch. With that in mind, Gatting will move down the order to bat at No. 6 in a line-up which otherwise looks likely to start the first one-day international, whenever that might be.

"We need Stewart, Smith and Hick to get time at the wicket, and to get some runs behind them," Gooch said.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI (from): Maninder Singh (captain), N S Sidhu, S Bhave, R Dravid, A Sharma, S Ganguly, N R Mongia, S Ankola, A W Zaidi, P Vaidya, R Chauhan, A Kumble, N D Hirwani, S Sugwekar
ENGLAND XI: G A Gooch (captain), A J Stewart, R A Smith, N H Fairbrother, G A Hick, M W Gatting, D A Reeve, C C Lewis, P A J DeFreitas, J E Emburey, P W Jarvis.

☐ Australia beat Pakistan by 32 runs in the limited-overs international at Melbourne yesterday to qualify for the final stages of the World Series Cup against West Indies. Dean Jones, batting with a broken thumb, made 84.
Australia 212-6 (D M Jones 84, D C Boon 64). Pakistan 180-7 (Ramiz Raja 40, Javed Miandad 40).

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2994



ACROSS
7 Chump (4)
8 Fish tank (8)
9 Nerves network (6)
10 Preserving (6)
11 Oven (4)
12 Resemblance (8)
15 Cosseted (8)
17 Calf flesh (4)
18 Film words (6)
21 Plague swarm insect (6)
22 Disdain (8)
23 Shave (4)

DOWN
1 Stick sweet (8)
2 Soft yellow (6)
3 Jovial Shakespeare character (8)
4 Unnecessary agitation (4)
5 Abject (6)
6 Destroy (4)
13 Faithfulness (8)
14 Pass on (8)
16 Sedative drug (6)
17 Leave empty (6)
19 Boast (4)
20 Domesticated (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 2993

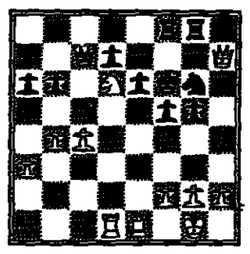
ACROSS: 1 Fudge 4 Pacific 8 Reptilian 9 Tar 10 EMS 11 Husbandry 12 Get to 13 In fun 16 Sommelier 18 Ram 20 Ova 21 Kick start 22 Yew tree 23 Nadir

DOWN: 1 Farce 2 Deposit 3 Erich Honecker 4 Priest 5 Cannabis resin 6 Fated 7 Carry on 12 Gascony 14 Forward 15 Circle 17 Miaow 19 Meter

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WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Short — Penrose, Brighton 1977. Nigel short caused a stir in 1977 by defeating the experienced former British champion Penrose. Can you spot the combination by which Nigel made a decisive material gain? Nigel Short's Candidate's Final match against Jan Timman is currently in progress. The match is being played in El Escorial, near Madrid.

Solution on page 36

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

LESTE
a. Lascivious, randy
b. An Italian aristo
c. An east wind

STROUHAL
a. A threshing hall
b. Anglo-Saxon rune for ST
c. A dimensionless number

PYROCERAM
a. A strong glass
b. A scaling ladder
c. Artificial insemination of sheep

SPIELRAUM
a. A billiards' room
b. The range of possibilities
c. A bad temper

Answers on page 36

Wales spy on their opponents

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHEN the five nations' championship opens at Twickenham and Murrayfield this weekend, Wales, though not represented on either pitch, will be heavily involved. The Welsh Rugby Union is likely to have as many as nine technical observers to see England begin their pursuit of a third successive grand slam against France and they will send a smaller party to watch Scotland play Ireland.

Direct and video analysis of opponents have become commonplace over the last five years but Wales, having slipped back in the international rankings, are leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to catch up. In addition to the four national selectors, Kevin Bowring and Derek Quinnell, the B team coaches, and J. P. R. Williams, a specialist adviser, are due to be at Twickenham.

Another two coaches may join them so that every move England make can be identified before Wales open their own five nations' campaign against Will Carling's team in Cardiff on February 6. For Alan Davies, the Wales coach, this is nothing new: as England B coach he was involved in the Rugby Football Union's training before he accepted the Welsh position in 1991.

Ironically England are not sending representatives to Murrayfield on Saturday but will content themselves with study of the match video. "We have smaller programmes going on centred round the A internationals this season," Don Rutherford, the RFU technical director, said. "We are also looking at extending our training another tier, involving people below divisional level. We need to do that because the more people we train, the more take up professional jobs with clubs and their services are lost to us."

Though Wales are anxious about the fitness of Ieuan Evans, their captain, who aggravated a hamstring injury during training in Lanzarote, they will be pleased that Emyr Lewis, the flanker, can play for Llanelli against Swansea in a Heineken League match on Friday evening. Lewis injured a shoulder playing against Australia in November and has not played since.

Scotland will be anxious about the fitness of four players when their squad assembles today: Craig Chalmers, Damian Cronin and Iain Morrison have been joined by Alan Sharp in carrying leg injuries. Sharp and Morrison will be particularly keen to clear any lingering doubts since they will be winning their first caps. Sharp, the Bristol prop, has been having daily treatment to remove bruising from a calf muscle.

Australia have confirmed that Sandy MacNeill will referee Wales v Ireland on March 6 and Ireland v England on March 20. The last of MacNeill's ten internationals was South Africa's return against New Zealand in August, but he also handled Ireland's two games against New Zealand during the summer.

Neil Matthews, the England under-21 and B squad stand-off half from Gloucester, will not play again for two months after after breaking a bone in his hand.

The weekend club programme includes, on Sunday, the third meeting between Wasps, the Courage Championship leaders, and Racing Club from Paris. Both clubs hope to field as strong teams as their international commitments allow for what will be Carlton Television's first venture into rugby match coverage.

McGeechan's vision, page 38

Programme questions promoters' role

BY JOHN GOODBODY

MICKEY Duff and Jarvis Astaire find themselves under renewed attack as boxing promoters on a Channel 4 television programme to be screened tonight.

Dispatches questions the consistency and effectiveness of the British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) and also details how the early opponents of Frank Bruno were selected by the American agent, Johnny Bos, because they would not threaten the progress of the promising heavyweight.

The investigation has been led by Jonathan Rendall, a journalist and paid adviser to Colin McMillan, the former WBO featherweight champion. McMillan has a promotional agreement with Frank Warren, a leading rival of Duff and Astaire.

On the programme, Astaire says: "Our influence has been a benevolent one. It may not suit you to hear that but it is true and, as a result of it, people who have been associated with it have benefited. We have always conducted our business in a proper manner."

Although the programme repeats well-documented allegations against Duff and Astaire, it also details how carefully Bruno's early opponents were selected. Duff is quoted as saying of Bos: "If he said to me a guy is okay, that means, in his opinion, that he cannot win at all. He has no chance of winning; you understand? Those kind of matches I rely on him for, when I don't want to take any chances when a kid is on his way up."

Dispatches also states that Oscar Holman, another American heavyweight, fought for Duff in 1986. Two years earlier, it was claimed that he had a thin skull and the BBBC had rejected an application for a bout under Warren's promotion.

John Morris, general secretary of the board, said yesterday that it was quite possible that Holman's condition cleared up during the intervening two years and that he had certainly boxed in the United States and Europe for four years.

"I do recollect in 1986 that there was a query that had to be cleared up but I cannot remember exactly what it was," Morris said. He added that he was "absolutely convinced" that the board was not influenced by Duff and Astaire and maintained its independence.

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